



A POSTSCRIPT TO THE RECORDS  
OF THE INDIAN MUTINY



A POSTSCRIPT T<sup>O</sup> THE  
RECORDS OF THE INDIAN  
MUTINY. AN ATTEMPT TO  
TRACE THE SUBSEQUENT CAREERS  
AND FATE OF THE REBEL BENGAL  
REGIMENTS, 1857-1858. By  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. H. D.  
GIMLETTE, C.I.E. (*Indian Medical Service*)

H. F. & G. WITHERBY  
*326 High Holborn, London, W.C.1*

1927



---

*Printed for Messrs. H. F. & G. Witherby by  
Northumberland Press Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne*

# CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION . . . . .	9
II. HORSE AND FIELD ARTILLERY--SAPPERS AND MINERS--FOOT ARTILLERY . . . . .	19
III. CAVALRY . . . . .	34
IV. INFANTRY . . . . .	71
V. IRREGULARS AND CONTINGENTS . . . . .	192
INDEX . . . . .	221

*NOTE.—The order followed has been that in the contemporary Bengal Army Lists. The spelling also in the lists of Regimental Battle Honours, etc., has been adhered to.*

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

No military revolt in the world's history has had so many chronicles as the Indian Mutiny. Books on it have appeared as recently as 1912. I have in my possession 164, and know of still more. It may be said, therefore, why add to the number of books written about events which, though of intense interest at the time of their occurrence, and for long after, are now remote? In explanation I would point out that among so many no other writer has hitherto touched the particular side of the subject regarding which these notes have been compiled.

My object has been to trace, as far as possible, the career of each regiment which mutinied, after it broke away, and during the fighting of the campaigns of 1857, 1858 and 1859. I may say also that the work has been undertaken not with any idea of adding to history but as a pastime during years of retirement.

Only twenty years had passed since the final crushing of the mutiny when I went to India. It was still being talked of, and the interest aroused by what I heard has never diminished.

Discussions as to the causes of the mutiny have been endless; doubtless there was a convergence of many. Several times I had opportunities of

## 10 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

talking to old sepoys who had belonged to mutinous regiments, but I got very little out of them. One said, "Sahib, tangi," meaning that the pay had been insufficient to support them and their families. Another said, "Dur ke mare," meaning panic. It is certain that the great majority of the mutineers, being Hindus, could not have had any great enthusiasm for a re-established Mahomedan Empire ruled over by the almost imbecile old Padishah of Delhi.

In 1887 there drifted to Goona, one of the Central India Horse Stations, a very aged ex-sepoy; he was supported out of charity by one of the officers of the regiment, in whose compound he lived. This ancient must have been then well over eighty years old, a great age for a native of India. He was occasionally sent for after polo, and, squatting on the ground, mumbled reminiscences, commencing with the siege of Bhurtpore by Lord Combermere in 1825, his regiment having formed part of the besieging force. He never would tell us the number of his regiment, and always became conveniently deaf to an inconvenient question. We gathered, however, that the battalion to which he had belonged in 1857 had been one of those disarmed after having shown signs of disaffection.

One of his tales that I remember ran something like this. "The paltan was frightened and feared that all would be shot down on account of what other paltans had done. One night the men ran out of the lines, got hold of their muskets and ammunition, fell in on the parade ground, loaded their muskets, and, led by Subadar Rustam Khan,

marched off out of the lines. The Sahibs came after us; the Adjutant Sahib came up first and shouted, 'Oh, Rustam Khan Subadar, Kyun Kyun.' He was always using that word, and we used to call him Kyun Sahib. After the Sahibs had talked to us for a long time we came back to the lines and unloaded our muskets. It was found that some of the men had loaded theirs two or three times over, and their muskets would have burst if they had been fired."

Very many of the corps which mutinied and marched off to different centres of revolt kept together and fought as units or in brigades; regular muster rolls were kept and authenticated by the native officers occupying the positions of Colonel, Adjutant and Quartermaster. They went into action with bands playing the same old airs; bugles sounding the same old calls, and their British colours flying. I saw some of these colours in the arsenal at Khatmandu; they had been taken from the rebels by Jang Bahadur's force, though the Nepalese pretended that they had been captured from us in 1815.

Among the Brigades of mutinied troops the most notable were the Gwalior Contingent, the Indore Brigade, the Nimach Brigade, the Rohilkhand Brigade and the "Fighting Regiments" as the Dinapur Brigade called itself.

The most notable ex-native officer-leader was Bakht Khan, a Subadar of Artillery, upon whom the King of Delhi conferred the rank and title of General, and made him C. in C. of the rebel army when he arrived at Delhi with the Rohilkhand Brigade. He was described by his late C.O.,

Captain Waddy, B.H.A., as "Sixty years of age; to have served the Company for forty years; his height 5 feet 10 inches; 44 inches round the chest; family of Hindu extraction, but converted under temptation of territorial acquisition; a very bad rider owing to large stomach, and large thighs, but clever and good drill."

Colonel Bouchier, B.H.A., says of him, "Bakht Khan, like the Nana, was always very fond of English society. At one time, when studying Persian, he used to come twice a day to my house to read and talk to me; he was a most intelligent character, but a more dreadful hypocrite never stepped on earth."

After Nujjufghur, Bakht Khan fell into great disgrace with the Padishah; there was at that time great depression among the rebels, particularly in the Nimach and Bareilly Brigades. After the fall of Delhi Mahomed Bakht Khan "fled to Farakabad with the few men he could keep together." They were not well received; had to pay their way, and had difficulty in obtaining food; on the advance of the British force he joined Hoosein Alikhan, one of the Nazims of the Nawab of Farakahad, in opposing the British, and, on being defeated at Khndagunj, was making the best of his way across the Ganges.

At this moment the Nawab of Farakahad must have seen with unpleasant clearness the prospect of an instantaneous reoccupation of the seat of his Government by the British, from which he himself fled in a few days. He issued, on the 25th of December, 1857, the following order to Lekka Singh Talukdar of Allahgunj, "Mahomed Bakht

Khan with his companions in arms being in possession of five or six lakhs of rupees is fleeing before the Europeans, therefore to us the all powerful this appears right that you plundered the cash and personal effects of Mahomed Bakht Khan and his companions; you will not be called to account for this pillage; but the guns, magazines and elephants attached to his force you are to send to undersigned that we being pleased it may be to your advantage. This is written as an injunction, you are to act strictly as you are ordered." Bakht Khan continued in nominal command of the rebel forces in Oudh during the campaign of 1858. He was killed at the battle of Nawabgunj.

There is a story that at the zenith of his career at Delhi he was the favoured lover of Zeenat Mahal, the youngest wife of the Padishah and the most active instigator of violence and crime. It is not likely, however, for he was sixty years old; but they were close allies.

The Gwalior Contingent, 8,000 strong, mostly Oudh men, highly trained and in sympathy with all the Poorbeah regiments which mutinied, were aliens in Gwalior. The State troops were Mahrattas. The Infantry of the contingent, after weeks of anxious suspense to the European element, broke out on June 14th, 1857, with extreme savagery; seven British officers were murdered, and six warrant and non-commissioned, also three women and three children; the survivors fled to Agra. The mutineers remained in sullen repose at Morar, vexing the soul of Scindia by incessant demands for money and supplies, also by demands to be led against Agra. After the



## 14 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

outbreak a native officer of the 1st Regiment was made C.O., but the more violent of the sepoys dominated the situation.

The Cavalry and Artillery mutinied at Hattras and Sansi in the following month, but did not murder their officers, merely sending them away to Agra. In the same month a detachment at Asirgarh mutinied and were disarmed.

Scindia managed by pretexts and devices to detain the Infantry of Gwalior until the fall of Delhi; they then met the Indore Brigade at the Chambal on September 5th, and combined with them for a time. The alliance did not last long, and the Indore Brigade left Gwalior intending an attack on Agra. The Gwalior Infantry, now restless, crossed the Chambal into Dholepur, plundering the surrounding country for supplies. They remained there until the end of the month of September, considering plans for an attack on Agra, and then united themselves to the Rani of Jhansi; accepted Tantia Topi as their C.O., marched to, and camped at, Jalaun, and thence to Kalpi, forty-five miles south-west of Cawnpore, on November 11th.

They formed the bulk of Tantia Topi's army in the attack on Cawnpore when Windham was defeated, and hard pressed, to be, in their turn, defeated and scattered by Sir Colin Campbell, who split them into two, half being driven back to Kalpi, and the other half dispersed along the banks of the Ganges. At the battle of Swarajpur, December 9th, Hope Grant utterly routed the centre and right, and captured fifteen of the contingent's guns. Five or six regiments rallied

to Tantia Topi at Kalpi and formed the bulk and mainstay of his reconstituted army, with which he marched to the relief of Jhansi. They were badly defeated by Sir Hugh Rose, retreated to Gwalior, and, in June, 1858, were smashed at Morar and scattered. "A large portion of Scindia's revolted troops joined the rebels near their own homes in Oudh and Rohilkhand, or went with Topi and the Rajah of Narweh, the only chief of note under Scindia's rule who had risen. The remainder, scattered through the country, were kept quiescent, in sight or in hand during the rains, and were eventually disarmed, discharged and most of their ring leaders seized." We hear of the contingent as a body at the battle of Amorraha in Oudh on March 5th, 1858, when the enemy force of 14,000 included 700 of them, of whom 300 belonged to the 5th Regiment. In this battle were also sepoy of the 1st, 10th, 53rd and 56th, recently recruited to 500 men each. The rebels were utterly defeated by Rowcroft.

The troops which mutinied at Mhow on July 1st, 1857, the 23rd N.I. and a wing of the 1st Light Cavalry, fled in disorder from Hungerford's guns to Indore, where they amalgamated with Holkar's rebellious Infantry, and subsequently joined the mutinous contingents of Central India, those of Mehidpur, Malwa and Bhopal, together with a rabble from native states. They became known as the Mhow and Indore Brigade, reached Gwalior, and were there detained by Scindia, along with the Gwalior Contingent, all through August. Early in September this force, taking with it a number of Gwalior malcontents, departed from Gwalior,

## 16 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

marched to Dholepur, threatened Agra, and eventually camped within four miles of the Fort. On October 10th they surprised Greathed's movable column in the act of pitching their camp. The British quickly recovered from their surprise; a brisk action followed; the mutineers were totally routed, and fled in disorder pursued beyond the Kari Nadi; lost all guns, wagons and baggage; their camp was burnt, they scattered in all directions and were never afterwards heard of as a united body.

The troops at Nasirahad consisted of the 15th N.I., the 30th N.I., No. 6 Light Field Battery of Native Artillery, and 2nd Company, 7th Battalion Fort Artillery, and the 1st Bombay Lancers; all, excepting the Lancers who were treacherous but did not actually revolt, mutinied on May 28th, 1857, and marched off to Delhi, where they arrived on June 18th. On the 19th this Brigade threatened to attack our camp in the rear, and were in position half a mile behind the Ochterlony Gardens. A day of severe fighting followed, lasting till after dark. Just before dusk, the rebels very nearly turned our flank. They were eventually driven right back into the city. Our loss was nineteen killed and seventy-seven wounded.

Mention is also made of this Brigade as having joined with the Nimach one in an attack on our right Batteries under "Generals" Sirdhara Singh and Buldeo Singh, which was repulsed with heavy loss. Our casualties were slight; this was on August 6th, 1857.

After the fall of Delhi the Nasirabad Brigade,

with other regiments, marched off south and became part of the rebel force routed and scattered by Greathed at the Kari Nadi. Remnants made their way into Oudh, still kept together, and are mentioned as a Brigade, or as regiments, which had belonged to the Brigade, and as being among the most determined fighters in August, 1858, when the rebels were defeated at Sultanpore, and driven across the Goomti.

In April, 1859, there was still enough of them to be called the Nasirabad Brigade. They were with the Raja of Gonda, then being hunted on the Nepal border, where they finally dispersed.

The troops at Nimach were the 72nd N.I., the 7th Infantry Gwalior Contingent, a wing of the 1st Bengal Cavalry, and a troop of Horse Artillery, 4th troop 1st Brigade, Murray Mackenzie's, all native. They rose on June 3rd, 1857, having, since the mutiny at Nasirabad, on May 28th, loudly protested their fidelity and indignation at the behaviour of their fellows. They made off to Delhi by way of Agra, where they fought the battle of Shahgunj or Sessiah, disastrous to the Agra garrison, on July 5th. After this affair they marched on to Delhi, entered the city, and fought throughout the siege. On August 25th, under Bakht Khan, they attempted to intercept the siege-train from Ferozepore, and were cut to pieces by Nicholson at the battle of Najafgarh, the whole Brigade being broken and dispersed. Only 600 of them remained together; many never again showed their faces in Delhi. Before the battle they numbered between three and four thousand. After the fall of Delhi a few took part in the battle of

## 18 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Kari Nadi, where they were finally broken up and came to an end.

The troops which mutinied at Bareilly, Moradabad and Shahjehanpur were afterwards known as the Rohilkhand Brigade. These consisted of five regiments and a Battery of Artillery; No. 15 Horse Battery and two six-pounder post guns from Shahjehanpur; the regiments were 8th Irregular Cavalry, 18th N.I., 28th N.I., 29th N.I., and 68th N.I. They all marched off to Delhi together, and, on July 2nd, crossed the Jumna 4,000 to 5,000 strong, and entered the city with bands playing and colours flying. Their leader, Bakht Khan, was appointed C. in C. by the old Padishah, and on August 12th he offered to lead a force consisting of the Nimach and Rohilkhand Brigades to intercept the siege-train, boasting that he would do so or die in the attempt. The force, numbering 6,000 men and 16 guns, left the city on August 24th; Nicholson started in pursuit on the 25th, and destroyed the Nimach Brigade on the same day. The Rohilkhand Brigade did not take part in this action, being four miles distant, and unable or unwilling to come up. After the fall of Delhi these regiments, with the other mutineers, marched off to the south, and made their way to Oudh.

The 7th, 8th and 40th which mutinied at Dinapur were known as the Dinapur Brigade; they called themselves the Fighting Regiments, and kept together all through the conflicts in Behar, Oudh and Bundelkand, under the command of Raja Kunwar Singh; and after his death until the mutiny was finally stamped out.

## CHAPTER II

### HORSE AND FIELD ARTILLERY—SAPPERS AND MINERS —FOOT ARTILLERY

#### 1ST BRIGADE OF HORSE ARTILLERY

##### *4th Troop* (native) Battery attached

Fought at Bhurtpore, in Punjab, at Mooltan, and Gujerat. C.O. Lieutenant-Colonel M. Mackenzie. Mutinied at Nimach June 3rd, 1857, having been transferred to that station from Agra. At the time of the mutiny of the troop Colonel Mackenzie was at Delhi and Captain Walker was in command.

There was an erroneous statement in some narratives that this troop was part of the illustrious garrison of Jellalabad. It was mistaken for a Light Field Battery commanded by Captain Augustus Abbott. (Kaye Vol. III.)

Excitement in the troop commenced on June 1st; towards night the Golundaze, on the pretext that the other troops were about to attack them, turned out and clamoured for the wagons to be filled with ammunition. Walker succeeded in pacifying them, and later all the native officers were assembled by Colonel Abbott, and swore on Koran and Ganges water to do their best to keep the men loyal. Two nights later, however, the signal for

the outbreak was made from the Artillery lines. A gun was fired, quickly followed by a second, and in a short time bungalows were blazing in all directions, and the usual outrages and looting taking place.

The Mahomedans of the Cavalry and Horse Artillery were the most bloodthirsty and savage; they cruelly murdered the family of one of the European Sergeants of Artillery who was at his post in the lines. The house had been barricaded, and, on the approach of the mutineers to break in, the wife shot one of them dead. The others of the band, infuriated, forced an entrance and butchered her, set fire to the house and threw the three children into the flames.

Having destroyed the station, and killed all the Europeans they could get hold of, the Brigade marched off *en masse* for Delhi by way of Agra. After considerable hesitation Brigadier Polwhele commanding there decided to move out of the Fort to meet them, and the disastrous battle of Shahgunj followed. Owing to bad generalship our force suffered reverse, and was obliged to retreat to Agra and re-enter the Fort. The 4th Troop took an active part in the fight; half the guns were posted on one of the rebels' flanks and half on the other. Our Artillery could not silence them, and wasted all its ammunition in attempting to do so; the reserve had been left behind. Fortunately the 4th Troop had nearly come to the end of theirs, but still had rounds enough left to fire into our retreating force.

After the battle the Nimach Brigade continued its march to Delhi, and was next heard of at the

battle of Najufgarh, where it and the Kotah Contingent were routed by Nicholson. The 4th Troop here lost all its guns. The whole Brigade was broken and dispersed, only about six hundred remaining out of from three to four thousand. Most of the survivors fled back to Delhi, and possibly some of the rebel gunners were among them. After the city had fallen the bulk of the rebels went off south to Bareilly, to Lucknow and Cawnpore. The remainder of the Nimach Brigade, under a man named Bheera Singh, separated themselves from the others and managed to join the Mhow Brigade—which had not been at Delhi—at Gwalior. From there the two Brigades marched to Dholepur, and took from the Raja three large brass guns to add to those already in their possession. They then threatened Agra with a second attack, and Brigadier Greathed's column moved to meet them. On the morning of October 10th the column reached Agra, and were about to pitch camp outside of the Fort when it was suddenly surprised and attacked by the rebels. A hard fight was maintained for two hours, when the enemy broke and fled. A vigorous pursuit destroyed them utterly, and there was in consequence an end to the Nimach Brigade.

*5th Troop* (native) Battery attached

Captain Renny and Captain Smyth; the latter in command. Fought at Candahar, Ghazni, Cabul, Ferozshuhur, and Sobraon.

This troop was at Hoshiarpur in June, 1857; on the 6th of that month it was marched to



Jalandhar, because it was not considered safe to have it at a station where there were no European troops. The troop was encamped in the H.A. lines, and its guns were parked with those of the European troop. A Company of the 8th Foot were also stationed in the Artillery lines to look after the native gunners. This troop, however, remained faithful throughout. When, on the night of June 7th, the other native troops broke out, a body of the 6th Light Cavalry galloped to the Artillery lines, and approaching the 5th Troop called on them to kill their officers and join, evidently expecting that the Golundaze would readily do so. The reply was, however, a volley of grape, followed by two or three rounds more which killed some of the leading sowars and horses, and wounded many more.

After quiet had been restored at Jalandhar the 5th Troop, still loyal, was marched to Delhi under Lieutenant Renny, and there did good service.

On July 9th, after the attack by the rebel Cavalry from the city on the right of our camp, during which the native gunners were called on by the rebels to join them and come to Delhi, it was thought advisable to take away their guns and horses as a precautionary measure, although the Golundaze had angrily refused the overtures of the rebels, and had called out to Olpherts' European troop of Artillery to fire through their bodies on the enemy.

The N.O.'s and gunners begged to be allowed to serve on, and were put in charge of the Mortar Battery, on the ridge which they manned and worked without relief till the end of the siege.

## HORSE AND FIELD ARTILLERY 23

On September 14th Renny took some of these gunners, and two twelve-pound mortars dragged by hand, into the city, where they were employed in shelling houses and streets still held by rebels. Renny was awarded the V.C. for gallantry in the attack on the Magazine, and the loyalty of his troop was considered due to his personal influence. Their horses and guns were restored to them, and the troop continued to do good and faithful service in the Rohilkhand campaign.

### 2ND BRIGADE OF HORSE ARTILLERY

#### *4th Troop* (native)

Fought in Punjab at Chillianwalla and Gujerat. Commanded by Major C. V. Cox. In June, 1857, was at Rawalpindi.

It was disarmed.

### 3RD BRIGADE OF HORSE ARTILLERY

#### *4th Troop* (native)

Fought at Bhurtpore, in Afghanistan, at Moodkee, Ferozeshuhur, in Punjab, at Mooltan, and Gujerat. Lieutenant-Colonel Abercrombie. Was stationed at Mooltan in June, 1857. Commanded by Lieutenant de Bude.

On June 9th the troop, still loyal, took part in the disarmament of the 62nd and 69th B.N.I. It was itself subsequently disarmed, and remained at Mooltan with those two B.N.I. regiments, a source of much embarrassment to the military authorities, for they required British troops to guard them. It was finally resolved to send them off to their homes in small batches, at intervals,

and the men at first acquiesced. Subsequently, however, a scare was started that they were to be massacred on the road, and, on August 31st, they suddenly broke into revolt, armed themselves with clubs and any other weapons they could find, and attacked the European and Sikh troops. In the surprise a few of the latter were killed, including the Adjutant of the 3rd B.O. Fusiliers, but, the surprise over, no mercy was shown to the mutineers, and of the 1,300 very few escaped.

#### LIGHT FIELD BATTERIES

*No. 1.* Attached to 4th Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery. Was at Jhelum under Major Knatchbull in May, 1857.

The gunners were all Poorbeahs, and suspected of treason. On the arrival of a movable column, chiefly composed of Europeans, arrangements were made to get rid of the Battery from Jhelum, and when the column moved on No. 1 Battery moved on with it to Lahore, where it shortly after was disarmed.

*No. 2.* Ballock Battery, attached to 2nd Company, 8th Battalion Foot Artillery. Was at Lucknow in May under Captain Simons.

I can find no record concerning them. Probably they mutinied with the others.

*No. 5.* Attached to 3rd Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery. Was at Delhi in May, 1857, commanded by Captain de Tessier.

On the morning of the 12th, when news arrived

in the cantonment of the arrival in the city of mutinous sowars from Meerut, two guns of the Battery were ordered to proceed with the 54th B.N.I. to the city. The headquarters of the 54th went on ahead, leaving two Companies to escort the guns. The rebel 3rd Cavalry met the advanced party of the 54th, murdered Colonel Ripley and four officers, and disappeared before the guns arrived at the Cashmere gate. The two guns were posted at the Gate Quarter Guard, and two more were sent for from cantonments; the remaining two remained at the Flagstaff Tower on the Ridge. By nightfall the entire Battery had joined the mutineers in Delhi. It fought at Najafgarh, and all its guns were taken by Nicholson.

*No. 6.* Attached to 2nd Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery. Was at Nasirabad, commanded by Captain Warburton, in May, 1857. Formerly Abbott's; rendered itself famous as part of the illustrious Garrison of Jellalabad. Remained well disciplined and most efficient while fighting against us at Delhi; bore on its guns the figure of a mural crown.

On May 28th, the 15th B.N.I., by a sudden and unexpected movement, seized the guns and turned them on the Cavalry lines. The gunners at first remained neutral and passive, but protected their officers; by evening, however, they had joined the mutineers, and assisted in repelling the charges of the 3rd B.O. Lancers. Malleson says that the charges were half hearted, and that the Lancers never rode home.

The Battery marched with the 2nd Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery to Delhi.

*No. 13.* Attached to 5th Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery. Was at Fyzahad, commanded by Major Mill, in June, 1857.

On the evening of the 8th the troops rose in revolt. No British troops were there. The first move of the Infantry was to seize the guns. The Battery was drawn up ready for action, loaded with grape, but before they could open fire, although their port-fires were lighted, they were overwhelmed by the rebellious Infantry, and the Battery ceased to exist. The Golundaze were given the credit of helping the Europeans to escape from the Infantry.

*No. 15.* Attached to 6th Company, 8th Battalion Foot Artillery, commanded by Major Kirby. Were at Bareilly in May, 1857.

In the second week of that month the guns of the Battery were moved from their usual position to a point near the practice ground, and put under the charge of the 8th Irregular Cavalry. This measure created a suspicion in the minds of the other native troops that the guns had been moved in order to coerce them into using suspected cartridges.

The Subadar of the Battery, Bakht Khan, with tears in his eyes protested and begged that the guns might be sent back to the Artillery lines; in accordance with the feigning confidence policy this was done on the 16th. Bakht Khan sub-

sequently assumed command of the rebellious Brigade, and eventually became C. in C. of the rebels in Delhi.

On Sunday, 31st, at 11 a.m., the prearranged outbreak occurred. Sepoys of the 68th rushed to the guns, the Golundaze fraternized, and volleys of grape were poured into the neighbouring houses.

An attempt was made by Captain Mackenzie to lead a troop of his men of the 8th Irregular Cavalry to charge and recover the guns, but in vain; the Battery had gone over. It marched to Delhi with the Bareilly Brigade, entered the city on July 1st and 2nd, and fought at Najafgarh, where all of its guns were captured.

*No. 18.* Bullock Battery, attached to 4th Company, 9th Battalion Foot Artillery, commanded by Major Bristow. Was under orders for the Sontal District when it mutinied.

On June 28th the Battery was part of a force reviewed by the Nana. It had come from Nowgong, and that is all that can be found about it.

The Nowgong Company of Artillery was opposed to us, on June 12th, in the battle of Futtehpoore, and all its guns were taken; but it is not certain that the Bullock Battery was there also.

#### BENGAL SAPPERS AND MINERS

Headquarters at Roorki: twelve Companies.  
The battles of the Corps were:

*1st Co.* Punniar, Punjab, Mooltan.

*2nd Co.* Afghanistan, Ghazni, Punjab, Mooltan,

Gujerat, A detachment at Candahar, Cabul 1842.

*3rd Co.* Punjab, Mooltan, A detachment at Gujerat, A detachment at Cabul, Candahar and Ghazni, Maharajpur.

*4th Co.* Cabul 1842, Maharajpur, Punjab.

*5th Co.* Cabul 1842, Punjab, Mooltan, Gujerat.

*6th Co.* Ferozshuhur, Punjab, Mooltan, Gujerat.

*7th Co.* Cabul 1842, Jellalabad, Punjab, Chillianwalla, Gujerat, Maharajpur.

*8th Co.* Cabul 1842, Jellalabad.

Punjab, A detachment Mooltan and Chillianwalla, Gujerat.

*9th Co.* Punjab, Chillianwalla, Gujerat.

The 5th Company was at Attock, and the 6th at Peshawar in May, 1857.

There were eight at Roorki numbering 713. I cannot find out where the other two were. Directly after the outbreak at Meerut General Hewett sent an order to Major Fraser, Commandant of the sappers and miners, to bring the Corps by forced marches to that station. This order was followed by a second directing that two Companies should be left at Roorki. At Colonel Baird Smith's suggestion the Ganges canal route was chosen instead of forced marching, and about 500 men set out under Fraser, and marched into Meerut, May 15th. They were still outwardly loyal, but in a very jumpy frame of mind.

The Commandant had promised them that they

should retain their ammunition, but for greater security proceeded to store it in a bomb-proof building. The sappers took this for a sign of treachery, stopped the carts, and four Companies broke into mutiny. The Commandant Fraser was shot and killed, and the Adjutant Maunsell was shot at but escaped injury. The mutineers then broke and fled. They were pursued by a troop of the Carabineers and some Horse Artillery, and about fifty were slain; the remainder reached Delhi. Two Companies, which were at work in another part of the station, remained with the colours; they were disarmed and set to work on fortifications.

The two Companies that remained at Roorki soon showed signs of disaffection. They were badly scared by the news that Reid's Corps of Gurkhas was approaching the station on the way to Delhi, and they were in consequence on the verge of mutiny and massacre. The Gurkhas were, however, wisely diverted to the canal, and skirted Roorki without entering.

After hearing of the mutiny and punishment of the Companies at Meerut those left at Roorki became more and more excited, and finally, on May 18th, went off in a body, after ill treating about fifty of their number who remained faithful. They marched to Moradabad, and outside that station were met by Captain Whish with a small force which included the 29th B.N.I., up to then faithful. The sappers rushed to the 29th but were made prisoners, disarmed, and turned adrift; they went off to Bareilly, eventually making their way to Delhi with the Bareilly Brigade.



## 80 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

### 7TH BATTALION FOOT ARTILLERY (Native)

*1st Co.* Was stationed at Noorpoore Kangra in 1857, and was disarmed.

No other information available.

*2nd Co.* With No. 6 Light Field Battery attached. Was at Nasirabad in May, 1857. (See 6th Light Field Battery.)

According to the army list this Company was at Nowgong, but it is not likely that there were two Companies at that station and the 4th Company of the 9th Battalion certainly was there. The 6th Light Field Battery was without doubt at Nasirabad.

*3rd Co.* With No. 5 Light Field Battery. Was at Delhi when the mutiny broke out there. (See No. 5 Field Battery.)

The Company formed part of the rebel garrison and fought against us until the city was taken. Nothing further was heard of it.

*4th Co.* With No. 1 Light Field Battery, commanded by Major Knatchbull, attached. Was at Jhelum.

It was disarmed.

*5th Co.* With No. 13 Light Field Battery, commanded by Captain Mill, attached. Was at Fyzabad. (See No. 13 Field Battery.)

Havelock's despatch on battle of Unao, "The whole of the guns 5th Company, 7th Battalion Foot Artillery, were taken by us, with nearly all its ammunition."

*6th Co.* Was stationed at Cawnpore in May, 1857.

It mutinied with the other native troops there. No other mention can be found of it.

## 8TH BATTALION FOOT ARTILLERY

*1st Co.* Was stationed at Cawnpore in May, 1857.

It mutinied with the other native troops there. There is no other mention of it.

*2nd Co.* With No. 2 Bullock Battery, commanded by Captain A. P. Simons, attached. Was at Lucknow and there mutinied.

*3rd Co.* Was at Almora, and there mutinied.

*4th Co.* Was at Attock.

No mention can be found of it, but probably it was disarmed. Cooper says it was.

*5th Co.* With No. 16 Light Field Battery, commanded by Captain W. P. Waddy, attached. Was at Umritsar. It appears that No. 16 was manned by British gunners.

The Company mutinied. No further mention of it. It was probably disarmed.

*6th Co.* With No. 15 Light Field Battery, commanded by Major Kirby, attached. Was at Bareilly in May, 1857. (See No. 15 Light Field Battery.)

## 9TH BATTALION FOOT ARTILLERY

*1st Co.* Was disarmed at Dum Dum.

*2nd Co.* Was disarmed at Dum Dum.

*3rd Co.* Was disarmed at Dum Dum.

*4th Co.* With No. 18 Bullock Battery  
commanded by Major Bristow, attached.  
Was at Nowgong.

On the 5th June Major Kirke, commanding the station, held a parade on which he highly commended the native troops on their loyalty, and met with an enthusiastic response. It is recorded that the Golundaze hugged their guns in an ecstasy of devotion. This was all momentary emotion or deliberate acting; by the 10th the guns were seized by the mutinous Infantry, and the Company had gone over to them.

In State Papers, Vol. II, pp. 154-5, an account is given of the parade of June 5th, and of the loyalty of Subadar Byjnath, an old man of fifty years' service, who remained with the Company after having been invalided, knowing the danger there was of mutiny, and doing his best to avert it at the risk of his life. Also of Pay Havildar Sirdar Khan and Private Seetaram. The former was recommended for promotion to Subadar, and the latter promoted on the spot to Havildar by Major Kirke.

The old Subadar made his escape, the other two were captured by the men of their Company, and would have been killed but for the interference of the men of the 12th B.N.I., who pointed out that the guns could not be worked without them. Seetaram subsequently made his escape. The

Company went off to join the Nana, and carried Sirdar Khan with them. His fate is unknown. The guns were captured at Futtehpoore.

*5th Co.* Was disarmed at Dum Dum.

*6th Co.* Was disarmed at Allahabad, but two guns posted at the Bridge-of-boats were seized by men of the 6th B.N.I. also posted there.

## CHAPTER III

### CAVALRY

#### 1ST REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1787. Fought at Laswarrie, Cabul 1842, Maharajpore, Alliwal, Punjab, Chillianwalla, Gujerat. The officers in the regiment in 1857 were Major G. R. Siddons; Captains Harris, Sandham, Nicholetts, Beatson and Forbes; Lieutenants Brownlow, Sir J. Hill, Ellice, Macnaughten, Martin Stapleton, Luard and Dent. Colonel Taylor and Captain Jenkins were on furlough. Lieutenant-Colonel Wheler and Captain Brooks were with the Oudh Irregular Force.

In June, 1857, the left headquarters-wing was at Nimach, the right wing was at Mhow under Major Harris. Five troops were on duty at Kherwarra up to May 19th. The native officers and troopers were in the same disturbed, mental condition as the rest of the Bengal Army. The outbreaks and massacres at Meerut and Delhi were soon known at Nimach, and the mutiny of the native troops at the nearest military station, Nasirabad, on May 28th, turned the scale at the former. The British officers were fully aware of the threatened danger, and made every possible effort to avert it.

Colonel Abbott, who commanded the 72nd N.I. and the station, assembled the native officers, and talked to them with such purpose that he induced them to swear on Ganges water and on the Koran that they would remain faithful, while he, at their request, solemnly affirmed that he believed them, and also that the Government had not the slightest intention of offending their religious prejudices. As a matter of fact the greased cartridges, which had been made the pretext for mutiny elsewhere, had never been issued at Nimach.

The vows of fidelity were soon forgotten. Near midnight, on June 3rd, two guns were fired by the native Battery of Artillery. This was a signal for the commencement of the outbreak. The Cavalry rushed to join them, the 72nd N.I. broke from their lines, and in a very short time all the houses in the cantonment were being plundered and set on fire; more than forty were in flames. There was a fortified square in the station which had been prepared as a place of refuge in case of necessity, and in it was the Treasury guarded by the 7th Infantry of the Gwalior Contingent. The men of this regiment remained faithful for some hours, but, on a second signal of two guns, and the approach from cantonments of the 1st Light Cavalry, Native Artillery, and 72nd N.I., in mutinous disorder, the gates were opened, the British officers in the Fort were driven off and the garrison joined the mutineers.

All the officers in Nimach with their wives and children, a party of forty in all, managed to get away, and eventually made their way to Udeypore, after much suffering. There were many narrow

escapes, the troopers being particularly active in attempting to cut off fugitives from cantonments, as were those of other cavalry regiments which mutinied. They were more blood-thirsty than the sepoys, and it was said that many European and Christian residents were shot down and hacked to pieces by them.

One poor woman, Mrs. Supple, the wife of a Sergeant-Major, R.A., was caught in her house and murdered, together with her children, who were thrown into the flames when the house had been set on fire.

On the following day one of the native officers of the 1st Cavalry, Shaikh Riadut Ali, was made Brigadier of the Force; a tent with a flag was his headquarters, and from it he issued orders in the name of the King of Delhi, and promoted Subadars and Jemadars to be Colonels and Majors. The money looted from the Treasury was divided, and the plunder from the officers' houses collected and loaded on carriages and carts. Soon after noon the whole body of mutineers marched for Agra on their way to Delhi; Infantry in front, Artillery and Cavalry following; advance and rear guards were told off, and Cavalry flanking parties thrown out.

After arrival at Fatehpur Sikri, the Nimach Brigade was joined by four troops of Cavalry of the Mehidpore Contingent, part of the Kotah Contingent, and a Horse Field Battery of Artillery. These reinforcements brought the strength of the rebels up to more than 5,000 men.

Brigadier-General Polwhele, who was in command at Agra, having received information of

the advance of the enemy decided to meet and fight them. The force at his disposal was but a small one; it consisted of the 3rd European Regiment, a Battery of Artillery and about a hundred mounted militia, unattached officers and civilians—little more than seven hundred in all. A battle was fought at the village of Saniah. The British were defeated and obliged to retreat to Agra and enter the Fort. The rebel Cavalry made two charges on our own flanks in the course of the action; both were repulsed; on the second occasion of their advance two hundred of them were charged and driven back by eighteen volunteers under Captain Prendergast. They repeatedly attempted to charge on the retreating British, but were every time repulsed. On the night following the fight the mutineers continued their march to Delhi, where they were received on July 8th with a salute, and much honoured. The Nimach Brigade kept together during the siege, and after the city had been taken what was left of them marched to meet the Mhow Brigade which had not gone to Delhi. The two wings of the 1st Light Cavalry were then reunited.

The mutiny at Mhow broke out on the night of July 1st. The houses of the officers and other buildings were set on fire, and murder and plundering started. The officers of the right wing of the 1st L.C. had, after dinner, proceeded to the lines with the object of passing the night there in order to allay excitement and show confidence in the men. Soon after their arrival in the lines a trooper shot at Lieutenant Martin without effect. He, and the other officers,



then made their escape to the Fort, fired at on the way by troopers and sepoys. The Commanding Officer, Major Harris, was murdered by a party of sowars told off for the purpose, who laid in wait for him between the parade ground and his bungalow. The Commanding Officer and Adjutant of the 23rd N.I. were also both murdered on the parade ground.

The only European troops in Mhow at this time were Hungerford's Battery of Horse Artillery, which had been withdrawn inside the Fort. After the outbreak, and the murder of the three British officers, the Battery turned out, and in the darkness fired a few rounds of grape into the lines of the Cavalry and Infantry; a somewhat futile proceeding, but which had the effect of causing the hurried flight of the mutineers to Indore, where they joined those of Holkar's troops, and formed themselves, with other rebels, into a body which became known as the Mhow Brigade. This force marched to Gwalior; after some stay there it separated from the Gwalior Contingent, and proceeded to Dholepur where it seized three large brass guns from the Raja. It then, as stated above, joined the remains of the Nimach Brigade which had escaped from Delhi. (The Nimach troops had been more than half destroyed by Nicholson at Najafgarh.)

The united brigades were a considerable force of all three arms. On October 10th they surprised and attacked General Greathed's column from Delhi, and as it was, after a long march, in the act of camping outside the Fort at Agra. A battle followed in which the rebel army was smashed and

dispersed. The Infantry portion of it was scattered in all directions. The Mhow and Nimach Brigades, in fact, ceased to exist; only a few of their Cavalry managed to escape together. Among them were the remnants of the 1st L.C. These were last heard of as forming part of a body of rebels, numbering 1,400 sabres and 200 regular Infantry, defeated by a small force under Lieutenant Forbes in the Etawah district on December 6th, 1858. This party of rebels became fugitives, and were shortly afterwards further punished by Brigadier Percy Herbert. The history of the 1st L.C. was thus ended.

#### 2ND REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1842. Fought at Delhi, Laswarrie, Deig, Afghanistan, Ghuzni, Punjab and Mooltan; had two honorary standards, one for Lord Lake's Campaign, and one for Mooltan, captured by Captain Vibart, and also an extra Jemadar for Mooltan. The officers with the regiment in 1857 were Major Vibart; Captains Seppings and Jenkins; Lieutenants R. O. Quin, Graham, C. W. Quin, Harrison, Manderson, Wren, Daniell and Balfour. Colonel Ponsonby commanded the Benares Brigade. Colonel G. Lawrence was in political employ. Major Taylor was in civil employ. Captain Warner and Lieutenant Derveux were on furlough. Captain F. C. Vibart was on leave. Major E. Vibart, Captains Seppings, Jenkins, Lieutenants C. W. Quin,

Harrison, Wren, Daniell and Balfour were murdered in the Ganges massacre, or killed in the entrenchment at Cawnpore. Lieutenants R. O. Quin and Manderson died of fever in the entrenchment.

The original 2nd Regiment of Light Cavalry so disgraced itself at Parwandarra, on November 2nd, 1840, when it was chased from the field by Dost Mahomed's handful of horsemen, that it was disbanded with ignominy. Another regiment, numbered the 11th, was raised to replace it, and the British officers were transferred to it in a body. The 11th so distinguished itself at Mooltan that it was in 1850 renumbered the 2nd.

In May, 1857, the regiment formed part of the garrison of Cawnpore, was the first one there to show signs of disaffection, and the first to break out and induce the Infantry to join it in mutiny. Everywhere the native Cavalry was the first to strike, and the most murderous of the rebels. This was supposed to be due to the large proportion of Mahomedans in their ranks. For some days the troopers had been making preparations, sending away their families, and packing up their property. On the night of June 4th they mounted, galloped about, firing pistols, setting fire to buildings and offices, and plundering. They and the Infantry fraternized with the followers of the Nana. The Treasury and magazine fell into their hands. The jail was broken open and the criminals set free. An occurrence which was said to have precipitated the outbreak is thus described by Colonel Williams, Military Secretary to Govern-

ment N.W.P. : " Again the unfortunate incident of a cashiered officer named Cox firing on a patrol of the 2nd Cavalry on the night of the 2nd of June, and his acquittal after trial on the following day on the plea of being unconscious at the time from intoxication, caused much dissatisfaction; the mutinously inclined Cavalry declaring openly that perhaps their fire-arms might be discharged by accident some day." The violent and insubordinate conduct of the troops, particularly of the Cavalry, although they still ostensibly took duty, caused many to take refuge in the entrenchments.

The mutineers, Cavalry and Infantry, decided to march at once to Delhi, taking their plunder along with them, and started northwards on June 5th. At this juncture such was their hurry that the Christian people in Cawnpore were spared and no officers were then killed. On the following day, however, the rebels were persuaded by Nana Dundu Pant to return to Cawnpore with the object of exterminating the British troops and officers, who, with their wives and children, had established themselves in the inadequate entrenchment, and of slaughtering every Christian to be found in Cawnpore.

The 2nd L.C. were foremost in the work of destruction and active during the siege of the entrenchment. One of their native officers, Subadar Leeka Singh, was made General of the whole rebel Cavalry, and led them in the operations that followed. On June 9th a band of unfortunate British refugees from Fategarh, numbering sixty men and ladies, and about this same number of children, arrived at Cawnpore, hoping for safety,

only to fall into the hands of these pitiless fanatics. Sowars of the 2nd L.C. bound them with ropes and drove them to slaughter. The victims were treated with great cruelty, denied food and water, reviled and grossly insulted. Leeka Singh and the 2nd L.C. seem to have been chiefly responsible for their fate. On the 11th they were shot and cut to pieces with bayonets and swords on the plain near the Swada house. One little girl of five or six years, found alive, though grievously wounded, was, on the next day, taken care of and adopted, with the consent of the Nana, by a Golundaz. She recovered from her wounds, was carried off by the Golundaz when Cawnpore was reoccupied by Havelock, and was never heard of again.

The 2nd L.C. was prominent in the Ganges massacre after General Wheler's capitulation of the entrenchment. It is on record that a sowar, perhaps belonging to this regiment, carried off from the river one of the General's daughters, who never returned to her own people.

Thompson relates that one of the emissaries, sent by the Nana to intimidate the Raja of Dirijbijah who had sheltered him, Delafosse, and Privates Murphy and Sullivan, was a sowar of the 2nd L.C.

This regiment was still to the front, and taking the lead in the organization of the force got together by the Nana and his advisers to oppose Havelock's advance from Allahabad. The first step was an expedition to crush the small advanced party under Renaud. A force under Leeka Singh consisting of 100 native Artillerymen with 12 guns, 500 Cavalry, 1,400 Infantry and 1,500 of the Nana's

retainers and budmashes, passed through Fattehpur on the 8th.

On the 9th Jowalla Pershad followed, and the rebel army then consisted of the whole or larger portion of the 2nd Light Cavalry, 1st 53rd and 56th Regiments of Native Infantry, 1st and 2nd Oudh Irregular Cavalry, two regiments of Oudh Native Infantry, 17th Regiment of Native Infantry and 13th Irregular Cavalry, 12th Regiment of Native Infantry, 14th Irregular Cavalry, No. 18 Field Battery, a detachment of the 10th Native Infantry, a detachment of the 6th Native Infantry, three Nawabie Regiments from Lucknow, two half regiments of newly-raised Infantry at Cawnpore, and a crowd of Zenindars from the district, with their followers.

Havelock, with his small force, had come up with Renaud, and met the mutineers near Fattehpur on July 12th. The 2nd Light Cavalry, dressed in their French grey uniform, attacked boldly, coming on in a wide line, and putting to flight a mixed body of remnants of Irregular Cavalry from Allahabad who had remained outwardly faithful (they were disbanded on the 14th).

The battle was soon over; the enemy was utterly routed, but, as Havelock had practically no Cavalry for the pursuit, was able to take up a fresh position, and entrenched at the village of Aoung. Another fight took place on the 15th; the rebel Cavalry first made an attempt to turn our right flank, but, driven back, it made a wide detour and attacked the rear to be again easily repulsed. Their guns were soon silenced by ours, and the village was carried; the mutineers fell back on a

strongly-entrenched position on the River Pandu, whence they were expelled before night-fall. The next stand made by the enemy was at Cawnpore itself, where he fought in desperation, the 2nd Light Cavalry still well to the fore. This was a hard battle, 1,000 British troops and 300 Sikhs defeated 5,000 native soldiers trained and equipped by ourselves. The victory on the field was decisive, but as we had no cavalry to pursue the Nana his beaten troops escaped to Bithoor, and thence into Oudh. This was on July 17th.

In August, when Havelock's little army had crossed the Ganges and was fighting its way towards Lucknow, bands of mutineers gradually returned to Bithoor, until quite a considerable number had reunited there. They consisted of sepoy from the 17th, 28th, 31st, 34th and 42nd Native Infantry, with some troops of the 2nd Light Cavalry, and 3rd Irregular Cavalry, Nana's retainers, and two guns.

At the conclusion of his first campaign to relieve Lucknow Havelock recrossed the Ganges and attacked them on August 16th, 1857. The Nana's troops numbered from four to five thousand and were very strongly posted. Havelock wrote in his despatch that the position was one of the strongest that he had ever seen. The mutineers fought obstinately, but were driven from Bithoor, and retired to Fattehgarh. During the battle a body of 200 of their Cavalry had dashed at our rear and carried off some baggage without in any way affecting the course of the action.

On September 9th, 1857, Mr. Sherer, C.S., reported that the regular rebel troops at

Farruckabad, among them the 2nd Light Cavalry, hearing that the British had arrived at Alligarh decided to disperse. The remnant of the regiment kept together, and in December, 1858, formed part of a force of horse that threatened Etawa, and were defeated by Lieutenant Forbes, Messrs. A. O. Hume, Machonachie and Doyle, who led against them local levies consisting of 200 Infantry, 140 Cavalry, 4 guns and a troop of the Meerut mounted police. The odds were great against the British, and at one period of the fight their position was critical. Mr. Doyle was killed. Chiefly owing to the gallantry and presence of mind of a non-commissioned officer named Edmunds, who was in charge of one of the guns, the enemy's attack ceased after a fight of three hours, when they drew off. They became fugitives and suffered further loss at the hands of Brigadier the Hon. Percy Aubert, who came upon them from Cawnpore.

Only a few weeks before the Nana and his remaining followers crossed the frontier into Nepal two of our spies reported them as a collection of twelve to fifteen thousand people, living without shelter in the jungle, half starved and in great distress. The most poverty-stricken and dejected of all were some troopers of the 2nd Light Cavalry. Nothing further is recorded of them.

### 3RD REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1796. Fought at Delhi, Laswarrie, Deig, Bhurtpore, Afghanistan, Ghuzni, Alliwal and Sobraon.

This very distinguished regiment had been presented with an honorary standard, and granted



an extra Jemadar for Delhi; on the standard were inscribed the words "Lake and Victory."

In May, 1857, it was stationed at Meerut, and the following officers were with it. Lieutenant-Colonel Carmichael Smyth; Captains Plowden, Richardson, Fairlie, Craigie, Sanford, Galloway; Lieutenants Clarke, Hugh Gough, Patton, Mackenzie, C. Fairlie, Jervoise Macnabb and Webster; Surgeon R. Christie; Veterinary-Surgeons Philips and Dawson; Riding Master Langdale. Major Dummond and Captain Christie were on furlough. Lieutenant Baring was A.D.C. to the Governor-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel Carmichael Smyth, commanding the regiment, is said to have been a "hard and unpopular" officer, never having gained the confidence of either the officers or men. He was quick in detecting faults, lacking in temper and discretion. By this time an outbreak was inevitable, but Colonel Smyth's action undoubtedly precipitated it. He was well aware of the disaffection that permeated the whole of the Bengal native soldiery, and of the greased cartridge pretext that was being used to foment it by the promoters. Presumably with the object of testing the feeling of the men of his regiment he ordered a parade of the skirmishers, ninety in number, on April 24th, for the purpose of instruction in a modification of the loading-drill by which the end of the cartridge was to be torn off instead of bitten off. Eighty-five of the sowars refused with insolence even to touch the cartridges offered to them, although they were exactly similar to those they had always previously used.

The General commanding the Division, an inefficient, indolent, old man, would rather have done nothing, but could not avoid assembling a Court of Enquiry, the proceedings of which were submitted to the Commander-in-Chief, who ordered that the mutineers should be tried by a native court martial. The Court sentenced the lot to ten years penal servitude, reduced in eleven cases to five by General Hewett. On May 9th, sixteen days after the parade at which the offence was committed, the whole garrison was assembled to hear the reading out of the sentences, and the degradation and fettering of the prisoners who had been under a European guard since their sentence. A very considerable time was occupied in riveting on the leg-irons. During the process the convicts, many of whom had fine records of service, lifted up their voices in vain appeals for mercy, reproaches of their comrades, and curses on the Government, their officers, and their Colonel in particular. The spectacle tried high the native troops, consisting of the 3rd Light Cavalry, 20th and 11th Native Infantry; but they were faced by Artillery, the Carabineers and the 60th Rifles, all ready for action. Sowars and sepoy were for the time powerless, and the convicts were duly made over to the civil authorities, and to the custody of a native guard; an act of inconceivable folly.

On the evening of the following day, May 10th, the outbreak suddenly occurred. It happened that at the moment no European was carrying a rifle. All guards were furnished by the Native Infantry. The church accommodated only half of the Christian garrison as half attended in the morning,

and half in the evening. The original plan of the mutineers was to be a rising in a body while the 60th Rifles were at evening service with side arms only; to surround the church, massacre the entire congregation, civil and military, and seize the rifles and ammunition of the Rifles. In consequence of the extreme heat at the time the evening service had been postponed by half an hour, and this alteration entirely upset the mutineers' plans. At the time when it was expected the 60th would be inside the church they were mustering on their parade ground. A cry was raised that the intention of the British was to descend on the native troops, disarm and chain them. A panic spread, and the outbreak was precipitated, resulting in but partial success.

Moreover, it seems to be certain that the Meerut rising was premature by some weeks, the conspirators, who permeated the entire Bengal native army, having planned a general, simultaneous rising at all stations on May 31st.

A body of troopers galloped to the jail and released their imprisoned comrades; the whole regiment then joined the Native Infantry and the evil-doers of the bazaar, among whom the Mahomedan butchers were conspicuous in the indiscriminate murder of their officers, all the Europeans and Eurasians they could come across, and in plunder and in destruction. Houses were set on fire in all directions. None of the officers of the 3rd Light Cavalry were murdered by their own men; Lieutenant Mackenzie was attacked by a party of them, but Lieutenant Craigie coming to his assistance the sowars scattered and left them. Other of their own men guarded them, and their

families, and brought them to safety. Lieutenant McNabb was murdered by sepoys or budmashes, and so were also both the veterinary surgeons. Major Fairlie, Quartermaster-Sergeant Cunningham and Lieutenant Hugh Gough were shot at in the lines, but protected by some of the native officers and better disposed troopers; they made their escape. A little girl aged eleven, the daughter of the riding master, Mr. Langdale, was murdered by a sword-cut which cleft her skull. Surgeon-Major Christie was set upon as he was attempting to escape in a buggy, and left for dead, covered with wounds. He eventually recovered, but had to be invalided unfit for further service. Mr. Phillips, who was in the buggy with him, was killed.

One of the veterinary surgeons, Mr. Dawson, and his wife were both suffering from small-pox. Alarmed by the mob they came out on the veranda of the house in their night clothes. The husband was at once shot, but the unfortunate wife was burned to death. Afraid to approach her because of the danger of infection, the cowardly devils threw lighted brands until her clothes caught fire.

The story has many times been told with indignation of how the maddened mutineers, and the yelling mob, were allowed to continue their work of massacre and destruction through the night with impunity, and the troops to clear off unmolested to Delhi. Old General Hewett, over seventy, corpulent and helpless, was as if mentally paralysed; incapable of doing anything himself he allowed Brigadier Archdale Wilson to act for him. The proceedings of the latter were, however, merely

futile. After considerable delay a march was made to the sepoy's lines, by that time deserted, and a few rounds of grape fired in the dark at some belated stragglers, by which Lieutenant Galloway of the 3rd Light Cavalry, who had taken refuge in a hut, was nearly killed. No attempt was made to deal with the murderous bazaar mob comprising fifteen hundred malefactors released from the jail, murderers and thieves, joined with the "vile rabble" always ready for plunder, to be found in every Eastern city, and all still busy with atrocity.

The march back to barracks of the English troops was lit up by the risen moon, and by the blaze of hundreds of burning houses. They did nothing, and saw nothing but the mutilated remains of their fellow-countrymen and women lying in the roads, or by their wrecked and plundered homes.

The same inertia prevailed on the following day. A half-hearted reconnaissance by a small force was made, without any result, in the direction of Delhi, after which the British troops were concentrated at one end of the station, and the Artillery School of Instruction was made a haven of refuge for the unarmed civilians, ladies and children who had escaped slaughter. The force remained inactive for many days. Commissioner Williams writes, "It is a marvellous thing that with the dreadful proof of the night's work in every direction, though groups of savages were actually seen gloating over the mangled and mutilated remains of the victims, the column did not take immediate vengeance on the Suddar Bazaar and its environs, crowded, as the whole place was, with wretches hardly concealing their fiendish satisfaction, and when there were

probably few houses from which plundered property might not have been recovered. But the men were restrained; the bodies were collected and placed in the theatre, in which a dramatic tragedy would have been enacted but for the real and awful one which occurred the night before."

The bulk of the 3rd Light Cavalry made off to Delhi, through the moonlight, after releasing their comrades from the jail, and murdering every European they came across. Some started for their homes in Oudh, and from seventy to eighty remained at Meerut faithful to their salt. This remnant remained staunch, and were trusted and employed in various affairs. On May 19th news reached Meerut of a party of fugitives from Delhi wandering in its vicinity. Lieutenants H. Gough and Mackenzie started with some of these loyal sowars to find and rescue them. With great difficulty their task was accomplished, and nearly thirty officers, their wives and daughters, tradesmen and others, who had escaped from the Delhi massacres, and had been wandering for a week from village to village, were brought in safety to Meerut. Each man of the rescuing party was rewarded. Two of them, Jemadar Biseshur Singh and another, obtained commissions in Murray's Jat Horse, and had an honourable career.

A few days before the above-mentioned occurrence, on May 15th, the Bengal sappers and miners from Roorkee marched into Meerut. On the following day they were seized with the incomprehensible panic that caused the falling away of so large a proportion of the mutineers. One of them

suddenly shot Major Fraser, their Commanding Officer, and the rest, fancying themselves hopelessly compromised, scattered in flight. A party of the loyal remnant of the 3rd Light Cavalry were at the moment mounted in readiness for another duty, and were at once started in pursuit under Lieutenant Mackenzie. Fifty of the wretched sappers were rounded up, and took refuge in a grove of trees, guarded there by the 3rd Light Cavalry until the arrival of the Brigadier with some Carabineers and guns, who destroyed the lot. Of those who attempted to reach their homes, two parties were heard of.

On the night of May 16th seven troopers of the 3rd Light Cavalry were arrested on the road near Etawah by one of the patrols organized by the magistrate, Mr. A. O. Hume. Etawah was at that time garrisoned by a Company of the 9th B.N.I., till then loyal. The sowars were not disarmed, and when brought to the quarter-guard showed fight. A *mêlée* followed; five of the sowars were killed, two escaped, one of whom was subsequently recaptured.

Three days afterwards the same patrols stopped a large cart in which were several 3rd Light Cavalry sowars, well armed. When attempting to disarm them the patrols were suddenly attacked and all shot down. The mutineer party then established themselves in a neighbouring Hindu temple, and were attacked by Mr. Hume, Mr. Daniell his assistant, and a party of police. The villagers sympathized with the sowars, supplied them with food and ammunition. An assault was delivered, but only one man, who was killed, followed the two

British officers. Mr. Daniell was badly wounded, Mr. Hume carried him off, and the mutineers escaped. Four days later the Company of the 9th B.N.I. mutinied.

General Havelock, in his despatch reporting the battle of Futtehpoore, mentions the 3rd Light Cavalry as being among the force opposed to him. A few of the regiment may have been with the Nana's force, but the bulk of the regiment was at that time in Delhi.

It was known to the native regiments in Delhi that sooner or later they would be joined by mutineers from Meerut. The event of Saturday, May 9th, was soon known there, and it was, therefore, no surprise when the revolted 3rd Light Cavalry, 20th and 11th B.N.I. appeared there on the 11th. As early as 8 a.m. on that morning sowars were seen galloping towards the city, and a cloud of dust on the road from Meerut indicated the approach of a large body.

The foremost sowars murdered the sergeant in charge of the toll-gate, and crossed the Bridge-of-boats over the Jumna, quickly entered Delhi, and lost no time in killing every European they came across, and firing their dwellings. The remainder of the 3rd Light Cavalry shortly arrived on the scene, and were soon followed by the Meerut Infantry. The Delhi native troops fraternized at once, the evil-doers of the population and palace joined in, and a general massacre of white people ensued. There were many dramatic incidents; the surprised British defended themselves nobly, but what chance had they? Colonel Ripley led the 54th B.N.I., seemingly enthusiastically loyal, from



the cantonment towards the Cashmere gate to cut off the rebels, and was met by the mutineers headed by 250 of the 3rd Light Cavalry in uniform, wearing their medals, and followed by the mass of Infantry, from Meerut, eagerly pressing on to the city. Confident and fierce the 54th fired into the air and joined their rebel compatriots, leaving their officers to their fate. All of them were killed by the sowars, and their own men. Several of the sowars pointed to the marks of the fetters riveted on them in Meerut in furious exaltation at the revenge they were taking.

The British men, women and children who succeeded in escaping from the city assembled at the Flagstaff Tower on the Ridge, about two miles from the city and near the cantonment, where there were still a few Companies of the 38th, the 74th B.N.I. and some Artillery. As the day wore on these became more and more threatening, until, by evening, it became clear that no help was coming from Meerut, and that all hope was lost. At last the Brigadier, General Graves, recognized this, and gave way to advice. Officers, civilians, women and children all took to flight from the cantonment, in carriages, on horseback and on foot, in different directions. General Graves eventually succeeded in reaching Meerut. The 3rd Light Cavalry were in the cantonment very shortly afterwards, searching for more victims.

On May 16th there was a shocking massacre of a party of fifty Europeans and Eurasians; men, women and children who had been seized at Daraogunj, and imprisoned in an underground room since the 11th. All were led out and cut to

pieces. Sowars of the 3rd Light Cavalry took part in the slaughter.

The regiment continued to form part of the rebel garrison of Delhi throughout the siege. On the day after the battle of Budlikaseraï they crossed swords with the Cavalry of the Guides, but were quickly put to flight. Gradually their numbers became reduced, and by the end of the siege they no longer existed as a united body of men.

#### 4TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised 1797, and fought at Laswarri, Bhurtpore, Maharajpore, Ferozshupur, and Sobraon. This regiment was stationed at Umballa in 1857 with the following officers: Lieutenant-Colonel Clayton; Captains Quin, Wylde, Macleod, Dumbleton; Lieutenants Clarke, Wise, Runell, Chichley Plowden, Thomas, Vornet Turner; Surgeon McRae; Veterinary Surgeon Jeffrey and Riding Master Boucher. Major Apperly was with the Stud Department, Captain Jackson with 2nd Irregular Cavalry, Captain Edmonstone in Pay Department, Captain Howard cantonment, Magistrate Umballa, Lieutenant Hunt with Malwa Contingent, Lieutenant Graham with Oudh Irregular Force. Lieutenants Batchelor and Cockerell were on furlough.

Very many of the regiments which mutinied behaved with strange inconsistency, and the conduct of the 4th Light Cavalry was very difficult to

understand. For a long time after the outbreak the sowars gave remarkable proofs of loyalty, although the station was permeated with treason. The two B.N.I. Regiments there, the 5th and 60th, eventually mutinied. On the day that the news of the outbreak at Meerut was received at Umballa a squadron was sent under Captain Dumbleton to bring in the treasure from Thaneysur, which was guarded by a Company of the 5th B.N.I. Captain M. Neile in civil charge at Thaneysur had such strong suspicions of the 4th Light Cavalry that he refused to hand over the treasure to them. Eventually it was taken in safety to Umballa by a Havildar and twelve sowars of the 4th, and the guard of the 5th B.N.I. On the way they were again suspected, and Pattiala troops, on the way to Thaneysur, attempted to relieve them of their charge. The sowars and sepoys refused to give up the treasure entrusted to them, and were in the end allowed to retain charge of it.

In other cases parties of the regiment showed themselves faithful. One party, under Captain Russell, was sent out towards Philour to take over from some of the 3rd B.N.I., and some Nabha troops, a large quantity of ammunition which they brought into the station without a sign of unwillingness. When the European Corps were ordered down from the hills to Umballa it was the 4th Light Cavalry who were told off as a guard for their tents and commissariat stores to the camping grounds. The sowars behaved admirably and gave every assistance.

The regiment had the special honour of furnishing the bodyguard of the Commander in Chief when

he paid a state visit to the M.R. of Pattiala at Umballa.

About the same time two squadrons under Captain Wylde were sent to Saharanpore to strengthen the hands of the civil authorities at that station. They behaved well while on this duty, in an affair at Desband against turbulent villagers, and again were staunch when the detachment of the 5th B.N.I. mutinied and attempted to murder Captain Wylde. One of these two squadrons fell in with some of the mutineers escaping from Jalandhar and cut their way through them.

Notwithstanding all these services it was afterwards discovered that all the time the whole regiment were traitors at heart, and only biding their time. This was proved by documents found at Delhi implicating the native officers. The regiment was disarmed in time, and most of it probably melted away. Some accompanied their comrades of the 60th B.N.I., and entered Delhi with them; others, most likely only a few, found their way to Lucknow. A writer in a "Narrative of the Indian Revolt," published by Vickers, 1858, describing the final recapture of Lucknow by Sir Colin Campbell, tells of the appearance, on March 5th, before our advancing army, of a very gay cavalier, escorted by sixteen regular sowars of our only native Lancer Regiment, who was put to ignominious flight by a few rounds of Minié cartridges.

With the reconstruction of the Bengal Native Army in 1858 the 4th Light Cavalry disappeared for ever.

## 5TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised 1800. Fought at Cabul, Maharajpur, Panniar, Moodkee, Ferozshuhur, Alliwal, Subraon, Punjab, Chillianwalla, and Goojerat. In 1857 it was stationed at Peshawar. The officers then serving with the regiment were Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington; Captain Jenkins; Lieutenants Robinson, Prendergast, Gostling, Lockwood, Branfill, Solly, Macnaughton, and Boulderson. Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, Captains Becker, Lane and Ross were on furlough. Captain Stannus was with the Pay Department, Captain Elliot in political employ, Captain Stephens in civil employ. Lieutenant Durrant with G.G. bodyguard.

The regiment had shown no outward signs of disloyalty, but was disarmed together with three N.I. Regiments on May 22nd as a precautionary measure. The officers protested loudly, and some threw their swords and spurs on the heaps of arms laid down by the N.O.'s and sowars. When the Bengal Native Army was reconstructed after the mutiny the 5th Light Cavalry was disbanded.

## 6TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised 1800. Fought at Laswarse, Seetabuldi, Bhurtpore in Punjab, Chillianwalla, Goojerat; gained an honorary standard for Seetabuldi. In 1857 was stationed at Jalandhar. The officers then

serving with the regiment were Lieutenant-Colonel Barton; Majors Scott, McMullen; Captains L. I. Farquharson, Grindlay, Mactier, Lane; Lieutenants Willock, Richards, Cuppage, Montgomerie, Smith and C. E. Farquharson. Lieutenant-Colonel Wheatley, Captains Thoebold, Lane, Lieutenants Grey, Wake and Peacock, were on furlough. Captain Delane was with the G.G. bodyguard, and Lieutenant Probyn with the 2nd Punjab Cavalry.

At the beginning of June, 1857, the garrison of Jalandhar consisted of Her Majesty's 8th Regiment, Captain Olphert's troop of European Artillery, Captain Smyth's troop of Native Horse Artillery, just arrived from Hoshiarpur, the 6th Light Cavalry, 36th N.I., and 61st N.I.

The disaffection of the three regiments of native troops was quite well known, and very frequent incendiary fires had occurred, but the officers insisted on the faithfulness of their men, and Brigadier-General Johnston, an irresolute and vacillating man, allowed himself to be influenced by them. It would have been an easy measure to have disarmed these regiments, already ripe for mutiny, and this course was urged by the Commissioner of the Trans Sutlej States. Twice the Brigadier decided on disarming, and twice he gave way. On the evening of June 7th the outbreak occurred. The native Cavalry were as usual the first in revolt; the sowars mounted and galloped wildly about, attacking every officer they came across, and inciting the other native troops to open mutiny, shouting that the British

troops were about to attack them. The two Infantry regiments readily responded, but the native Artillery troop greeted the body of Cavalry who approached them with a volley of grape, killing and wounding some. A third lot rode to the civil lines and town with the intention of seducing the Kapurthala troops, who did not respond.

A short time previously one of the sowars of the 6th was tried by Regimental Court Martial, at the earnest request of the native officers, for unbecoming behaviour in having taunted another sowar and a N.C.O., calling them Christians. He was acquitted! Major McMullen, who was in command of the regiment on the 7th June, came across this same man in the act of mounting his horse and endeavoured to prevent him. The sowar drew a pistol and fired, wounding McMullen in the hand. The Adjutant of the 36th N.I. was mortally wounded by a sowar, and other officers were also wounded by troopers. Murder and plundering went on unchecked in the vicinity of a regiment of British Infantry, and a Battery of Artillery. Orders were issued by the Brigadier to the effect that no offensive should be attempted, and the mutineers were allowed leisure to divide their booty before moving off in a body towards Phillour. The disgrace was as tragic as that of Meerut. The rebels marched off with arms, ammunition of two regiments, the colours, and plunder, unmolested. The standards of the 6th Light Cavalry were, however, saved. After the departure of the mutineers a roll was called by Major McMullen of the men who had remained faithful, and again on the following morning, when it was found that some

of the sowars who had at first gone off had returned. These men were ordered to bring out for inspection their arms and accoutrements. On some were found blood and dust. A dozen of the owners were at once tried by drum-head court martial and shot; so also were a few who had the effrontery to present themselves at the regimental hospital for treatment of grape-shot wounds. One hundred and fifty-six sowars remained faithful, and about a hundred were on furlough, so that less than half of the regiment went off with the other mutineers. Those who stayed were dismounted and disarmed, and the regiment practically ceased to exist.

Six hours elapsed before Brigadier Johnstone could be induced to start a force in pursuit of the mutineers who were entering Phillour, as the pursuers were leaving Jalandhar early in the morning.

The 3rd B.N.I. were stationed at Phillour, and joined the other rebels as soon as they arrived there. It is clear that there was a preconcerted arrangement between them. The force from Jalandhar never overtook the mutineers at all, who were, however, checked at the Sutlej by a force with two guns, one of which was lost by the horses bolting. This force was hurriedly got together, and pushed forwards by the Deputy Commissioner at Ludhiana, Mr. Ricketts; and Lieutenant Williams with three Companies of the 4th Sikhs. The rebels had been crossing the river all day at the Lusara Ghat; 1,600 had got over, and about 400 were still on the Phillour side. Mr. Ricketts's small party came upon those who had crossed at ten o'clock at night, and for two hours fought three mutinous regiments



## 62 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

of Infantry, and one of Cavalry, hoping all the while that the pursuing troops from Jalandhar would arrive and take the enemy in rear. No help came, for the pursuing column were in camp at Phillour, within sound of the fighting, and kept there by Brigadier Johnstone.

The unequal struggle was kept up until the Sikhs' ammunition was all but exhausted, and Lieutenant Williams fell shot through the chest. The gallant little band was then forced to retire, and, on the following morning, the mutineers were in possession of Ludhiana, whence, after doing all the damage possible, they made good their escape, and proceeded to Delhi, avoiding the Grand Trunk Road, keeping clear of Umballa, and marching along by-ways and over fields. The 400 men who had not crossed the river followed its course up to Roopur, crossed there, and made for Delhi, where the main body, including the 6th Light Cavalry, arrived on June 21st. Nothing more was heard of the regiment as a separate unit after this incident.

### 7TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1805. Fought in the Punjab. In May, 1857, the regiment was stationed at Lucknow. The officers with it were Lieutenant-Colonel Master; Captains Staples, Boulton, Radcliffe, Boileau, and Melvill; Lieutenants Arthur, A. I. Boulton, Warner, Martin, Farquhar and Raleigh; Surgeon Campbell, and Riding Master Eldridge. Major Hawthorne, Captain Alexander and Lieutenant Compton were on furlough, Captain Turnbull was

Army Clothing Agent, Captain Hamilton Pay Department, Lieutenant Shepherd with Oudh Irregular Force, and Lieutenant Salmond with 2nd Cavalry Gwalior Contingent.

The three Infantry regiments stationed at Lucknow broke into insurrection on the night of May 30th, hunted for their officers to murder them, pillaged and set on fire their houses. The whole cantonment of Muriaon was soon blazing.

The 7th Light Cavalry were stationed at Mudkipur, some distance farther out; according to Captain Radcliffe's narrative only about one hundred and fifty men were then present at the Headquarters of the regiment. These were turned out by their officers formed into three troops, and marched towards the Infantry cantonment. About thirty sowars at once deserted and galloped off to join the mutineers. This party, according to Gubbin, made its way to the mess of the 1st B.N.I. with the intention of murdering the officers. The regiment at a canter reached the Residency at 10 p.m., patrolled round it, and towards Muchee Bawn, returned by the Stone bridge through Neukha Gunj to the Residency by 2 a.m. At 3 o'clock the 4th Troop from Chinhut, under Captain Boileau, joined the headquarters.

Shortly after gunfire on May 31st the regiment was drawn up on the 32nd parade ground on the right of the line. It was then directed to move towards its own lines at Mudkipur, which were in possession of the Infantry mutineers, and had been set on fire by them. The Corps advanced at a canter and met about a thousand rebels approach-

ing in skirmishing order. A proportion of the 7th Light Cavalry, with loud yells, deserted to the enemy. Mallison says more than half, and that only thirty or forty remained with their officers. Radcliffe, who was there, states that, on this occasion, thirty-five or forty deserted, and that a hundred and five remained faithful. The fact seems to have been that about half the regiment went off. Lieutenant Raleigh, a fine young man who had only just joined, was on the sick list, and remained behind when the regiment moved towards Maniaon on the night of the 30th; he was brutally murdered by 5 a.m. on the morning of the 31st, in front of first troop-lines. Two guns accompanied the 7th Light Cavalry when they encountered the mutineers, and, opening fire, soon dispersed them. The Cavalry who remained faithful, with Irregulars, followed the rebels, killed a few and took a few prisoners. By 10 a.m. they were back in Mudkipore, and marched to cantonments in the evening. The sowars who remained after the mutiny behaved well. On June 12th they were given two months' pay, and granted furlough until October 15th. The men quietly lodged their arms and dispersed to their homes; the regiment ceased to exist.

The horses were marched down to the Residency, on the 12th, and were picketed opposite the Baillie guard, where the Europeans, and those of the native officers that remained, camped, having with them the standards that were saved.

Lieutenants Shepherd and Arthur were afterwards killed at their post during the siege. So also Captain Radcliffe who commanded the

volunteer troop at Chinhut. Colonel Master commanded the important post of the Brigade mess. Captain Boileau also commanded an out-post.

The portion of the 7th Light Cavalry, amounting to about two troops, who mutinied, went off with portions of the 48th, 71st and 13th, in the direction of Delhi, and were joined by the mutineers from Sitapur. It seems that they returned and took part in the opposition to Havelock's advance, and in the siege. Two troops, on the march to Fattehpur, were in camp at Chobeypur, twelve miles from Cawnpore, with two Companies of the 48th, on June 7th, and were among the troops reviewed by the Nana on June 28th. Havelock mentions them as among the enemy at the battle of Fattehpur.

#### 8TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1805 and fought at Bhurtpur, Punniar, Maharajpur, Ferozshuhur, in Punjab, at Chillianwalla, and Gujerat. In May, 1857, the regiment was at Meean Meer. The officers at headquarters were, Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie; Captains Drummond and Best; Lieutenants C. I. S. Gough, Chichester and Shepherd; Surgeon Paton, Veterinary Surgeon Hickman; Riding Master Loder. Colonel Carmichael, Lieutenant-Colonel Salter, Major Moore, Captains Cantley, Prendergast and Ward, Lieutenant Oakeley and Veterinary Surgeon McDermott were on furlough.

Captain Tucker was with Clothing Department. Captain Swinton with Pay Department. Lieutenant Grant, A.D.C. to Governor Madras. Lieutenant C. N. Tucker with 15th Irregular Cavalry.

The regiment was disarmed at a general parade of all the troops in the station on May 15th. Their horses were taken from them on June 3rd.

#### 9TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1825. Fought at Bhurtpore, Meeanee, and Hyderabad. Had been granted an honorary standard, and an extra Jemadar for the two latter. In May, 1857, a wing was stationed at Sialkot, the other wing was in Nicholson's movable column. The officers then present with the regiment were: Lieutenant-Colonel Lorne Campbell; Captains Baker, Wylly, and Balmain; Lieutenants Bushby, Saunders, Dixon, Barlow, Lane, Montgomerie, Cantfield, Wells and Prinsep. Surgeon Butler, Veterinary Surgeon Garrad; Riding Master Bradshaw. Lieutenant-Colonel Hawkes, Major A. Tucker, Captains Snow and Macgregor were on furlough. Captain Hariott was in Judge Advocate's Department, and Captain Thompson with G.G.'s bodyguard.

The Sialkote affair was yet another instance of the blind belief in the loyalty of the native soldier by old officers of the Indian Army. Brigadier

Brind had ample opportunity to disarm the sepoy and sowars ripe for mutiny at Sialkote, but trusted them and would not. They broke out and killed him and others. Irresolution and apathy was apparently the general condition of the English in this station. Events in other places, and the demeanour of the natives, showed that an outbreak was inevitable, yet nothing was done but to sit and wait for it day by day. It was understood that the place of refuge was to be an old Sikh fort in the city called by the name of Tej Singh; no attempt to put it in a defensible state was made, however, and there was no concerted plan. Fortunately, as elsewhere, the mutineers, after murdering all the white people they came across, and a day of pillage and destruction, followed the usual course of going off in a body.

The Cavalry, as always, were foremost in bloodshed, and, being mounted, they were at a great advantage in hunting down defenceless fugitives. Many were killed while attempting to make their way to the Fort. Two medical officers, both named Graham, a missionary named Hunter, and the Brigade-Major, Captain Bishop, were killed in circumstances of extreme brutality.

The behaviour of the mutineers was often unaccountable, but nothing stranger happened anywhere than at Sialkote when two of our Field Officers were invited to command them with offers of guaranteed high pay, and furlough to the hills every hot season.

The wing of the 9th Light Cavalry with the 46th B.N.I., laden with plunder, marched off towards Delhi, bugles blowing, colours flying,

without attacking the defenceless Fort. Triumphant for the time, but the avenger was quickly upon them. Nicholson with his movable column was at Amritsar not far off. He had with him the other wing of the 9th Light Cavalry, and, on July 9th, these he suddenly disarmed, dismounted, and left under a guard of the Queen's 52nd and a couple of guns. The column then moved to intercept the mutineers, and caught them on the 12th at Trimu Ghat on the Ravi in the act of crossing; forming and deploying as they landed, the Infantry in the centre, with Cavalry on either flank, and vedettes thrown out. The 9th at once charged our Artillery; some newly raised Punjab levies bolted, and a volley from the whole line of the rebels was poured on the column. Things for the moment looked ugly, but the situation quickly changed. The Cavalry who charged were all slain. Our Infantry formed, and in twenty minutes the fire of the enemy was subdued; in ten more they were in full retreat to the river, leaving three or four hundred killed and wounded behind them.

The strip of land by which the rebels had crossed the river, and where they had been driven back, had, through the rapid rising of the water, become an island. Here they were entrapped, and Nicholson made his preparations to destroy them. On the 16th he brought his guns down to the river bank, and pounded the enemy, while, unobserved, he crossed his Infantry to the southern end of the island; and putting himself at the head of his men, with a few sowars, dashed at the enemy. The rebels had one old Sikh gun brought from Sialkot, of which they made the best possible use. It was

worked by a fine old Havildar who stuck to his post to the last. Nicholson cut him clean in half and remarked to his A.D.C., Randall, "Not a bad sliver that."

The mutineers on the island were killed to the last man, and that was the end of the 9th Light Cavalry.

#### 10TH REGIMENT LIGHT CAVALRY

Was raised in 1825. Fought at Bhurtpore, Cabul 1842, and Maharajpur. In May, 1857, it was at Ferozepore. The officers with the regiment then were Major Macdowell; Captains Beatson, Harvay, Dumbleton, Cotton; Lieutenants Harrison, Hamilton, Prendergast and Graham; Cornet Beadon; Surgeon Anderson, Veterinary Surgeon Williams; Riding Master Keily. Lieutenant-Colonel Wemyss, Lieutenants Wilkinson, Clifford, Jenkins, Copeland and Jennings, were on furlough. Captain Alexander was with the 11th Irregular Cavalry, Captain W. Alexander with the Gwalior Contingent, and Captain Jenison on the staff.

The behaviour of this regiment was, as that of many others, unaccountable, and not to be understood. The sowars remained loyal when the Infantry regiments broke out on May 15th, did good service, were greatly praised and received thanks from C. in C., allowed themselves to be disarmed, almost submitted to having their horses taken from them, and three months later, when it was quite evident that the cause of the mutineers



was lost, broke out themselves. Brigadier-General Innes disarmed them without any trouble, as a matter of precaution, on July 10th. The lines were searched and all private arms taken away, but it was not a matter of difficulty for the sowars to secretly supply themselves with others. One squadron was absent under Captain Dumbleton on escort duty at Umballa. On its return to Ludhiana it heard what had happened at Ferozepore, and was also ordered to give up its arms and horses, which it did without hesitation.

The horses at Ferozepore were at first left picketed in the regimental lines, but were gradually drawn upon for requirements of the Delhi Field Force, and the last requisition precipitated a mutiny. Discontent had been brewing; the troopers felt that the thanks of the Government, and of the C. in C., were but empty praise, and that their loyalty was in vain. On August 19th, in the middle of the day, they rose, made a rush on the guns of the Battery of Artillery next to their lines, and temporarily seized them; killed Veterinary Surgeon Vincent Nelson, and two gunners, and wounded several.

The mutineers were, however, quickly driven off. Unfortunately, by a foolish blunder, a gun from the nearest bastion of the entrenchment opened fire in the wrong direction, killed a lot of horses—about a hundred—and caused confusion among the others, under cover of which the sowars, numbering about two hundred, got away on any animals they could seize, and made for Delhi. One hundred still remained quiet; some of the mutineers were caught, and hanged at Ludhiana.

## CHAPTER IV

### INFANTRY

#### 1ST REGIMENT OF BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Gillis Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1775. "Plassy," "Korah,"  
"Dehlee," "Laswarrie," "Punjab." Was  
at Cawnpore in May, 1857, commanded by  
Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart. Mutinied on  
June 6th. The following were killed by  
the mutineers : Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart;  
Captains Achill Turner, E. I. Elms;  
Lieutenants H. Sidney Smith, R. M.  
Sutchwell, G. R. Wheeler, and F.  
Redman; Ensigns J. C. Supple and G.  
Lindsay.

This regiment had been cantoned for a year with  
the 2nd Light Cavalry, and had been in close  
communication with the troopers plotting mutiny.  
On the night of June 5th the Cavalry broke out, and  
two sowars galloped to the lines of the 1st Infantry  
calling on them to turn out and join. The sepoys  
at once did so, loaded their muskets, put on their  
accoutrements and packed their property. Colonel  
Ewart was quickly on the spot exhorting his  
"Bahalog" not to behave so wickedly; they ignored  
him, fraternized with the Cavalry, and marched off

to Nawabgunj, the north-west suburb of the station, where the magazine and Treasury were situated. At this juncture the sepoy manifested no animosity towards their officers, but, on the contrary, exhorted them to seek safety in the poor entrenchment that had been prepared by General Wheeler. Every bungalow, however, on their way to Nawabgunj they set fire to. On the morning of the 6th the mutineers obtained possession of the Treasury, entered the jail, set all the prisoners at liberty, and burnt the public offices with all their records. They brought as many country carts as they could collect and carried off large quantities of ammunition from the magazine.

The intention of the rebels was to proceed to Delhi, and they marched as far as Kullianpore in that direction, but were persuaded by the Nana of Bithoor to return to Cawnpore and destroy the British officers, the few British troops, and their families, as well as the entire British civil population. "Kill all the English and I will give you each a golden bracelet."

The first B.N.I. took an active part in the siege of the entrenchment. They named their Subadar Major a General, and he promoted all the Havildars to be Captains, Lieutenants and Ensigns. The Nana's proclamation for the ordering of the army is to be found in Ball Vol. I.

On June 21st a determined assault, intended to be an overwhelming rush, was made by the rebels, accompanied by crowds of budmashes. The leader was the Subadar Major of the 1st B.N.I.; he had sworn to take the entrenchment or die. He was killed, and the attack was repulsed.

After the capitulation of General Wheeler the 1st B.N.I. took an active part in the treacherous massacre. Colonel Ewart, badly wounded, fell behind in the procession to the river. He was taunted and mocked by men of his own regiment and then murdered by them. Mrs. Ewart, who was with him, was killed at the same time.

The regiment formed part of the Nana's army which opposed Havelock's advance from Allahabad to Cawnpore, and from Cawnpore to Lucknow. In a village near Cawnpore was captured one of its Subadars; a most atrocious scoundrel who was carried along, made to clean a portion of the house in which our women and children were murdered, and then hanged at its door.

After the battle of Futtehpore, on July 12th, 1857, a Naik of the 1st B.N.I., Anjur Tewari by name, came in and gave himself up. He said that he was a young soldier, and had been coerced into going off with his regiment when it mutinied; he admitted having been a witness of all the Cawnpore disasters and of the massacre at the boats. This man became our most intrepid and intelligent spy. He was of the very greatest service in the advance on Lucknow, passing forwards and backwards between the relieving force and the garrison, and was well rewarded, receiving pensions, honours, and a good jaghir.

The 1st B.N.I. kept up its reputation as a fighting regiment. The force it happened to be with was always defeated, but the Corps kept together in continually diminishing numbers until the end. On September 21st, 1857, in a fight at Mangalwar, its colours were captured by Barrow's

mounted volunteers, who in the pursuit killed 120 rebels.

After the final capture of Lucknow it remained with the Nana and his associates in Oudh, and during 1858 was part of the body of rebels numbering over 14,000 with 10 guns. The 1st, 10th, and 53rd B.N.I. had been recruited up to 500 men each, so that with 700 of the 2nd Oudh Police, 500 of the Gwalior Contingent, there were 4,000 sepoy, 10,000 Irregulars, 300 sowars. It was routed by a British force of 1,261, and 4 guns, on March 5th at Amorha near Fyzabad, with a loss of about 500 killed and wounded (according to one account 1,900, 700 being sepoy, with a Raja and about 15 Sirdars).

The charges of the Yeomanry Cavalry decided the battle; eight guns were captured.

The British force was composed of :

200 Naval Brigade under Sotheby.

800 Gookhas.

200 Yeomanry Cavalry under Richardson.

40 Sikhs, Colonel Rowcroft in command.

The Nana's following was gradually driven into Nepal, the remains of the 1st B.N.I. still with it. In April, 1859, 4,000 of the rebels had taken up a position at Bunkania, at the foot of the Nepal hills, eight miles from Gonda on the Fyzabad road. Some of the 1st B.N.I. were still with them.

On the 13th of April they were utterly beaten and dispersed by a force under Lieutenant-Colonel Cormick, consisting of a wing of Her Majesty's 20th, 200 of 1st Sikh Cavalry and a squadron of Hodson's horse. The rebels were chiefly men of the 1st,

53rd and 56th B.N.I., all of Cawnpore Infantry; 300 or 400 of them were killed.

Nothing more was heard of the 1st B.N.I.

## 2ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Burdwan Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1762. "Buxar," "Guzerat,"  
"Candahar," "Ghazni," "Cabul,"  
"Maharajpore," "Ferozeshuhur." This  
Corps was made a Grenadier Regiment for  
Candahar, and had a third colour with the  
word Ghazni in English, Persian and  
Hindi.

It was at Barrackpore in May, 1857, commanded by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Cooke, and was there disarmed. A wing was at Raniganj. This regiment was one of the first to be seriously affected by the greased cartridge scare. "Early in February a Kalassi belonging to the Dum Dum depot casually asked a sepoy sentry of the 2nd Grenadiers for a draught of water from his lota, or brass drinking vessel. The sepoy, who was a Brahmin, demurred on the score of the Kalassi's caste. This worthy, whose duty it was among other things to make up cartridges, replied with a sneer that the sepoy need not be so tenacious of his caste, for that would soon be gone as the new cartridges were greased with bullocks' fat, and that, in biting them for loading, every sepoy's caste would be broken. The horrified sepoy quickly carried this report to his comrades at Barrackpore, and among them it spread like wildfire; great excitement prevailed; nightly meetings were held, and the

spirit of disaffection began to show itself, which required all the tact, and almost lifelong knowledge of the native character, with a perfect command of the language for which General Hearsey is famed, to allay." (Cave Browne.)

Every effort was made to reassure the sepoy, and the drill was altered so that the cartridge was torn instead of bitten. For a time there was outward calm, but the disaffection deepened, and there was good reason to believe that the Grenadiers, with the other regiments at Barrackpore, had resolved to mutiny on the first favourable opportunity.

Disarmament was decided on. The 78th Highlanders were marched into the station on June 14th—the very day on which the sepoy intended to rise—and, at 4 p.m., the native regiments were suddenly ordered to parade; found themselves faced by guns and flanked by British troops. Sorrowfully they laid down their arms, and large numbers deserted during the night.

### 3RD REGIMENT NATIVE INFANTRY (Soolteen Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1763. "Buxar," "Guzerat," "Punjab." It was at Phillour in May, 1857, commanded by Colonel I. Butler, and there mutinied on June 8th. The loyal remnants helped to form the 17th B.N.I.

This regiment displayed the strange inconsistency shown by many of the mutineers. Up to the last it showed every signal of loyalty; a detachment

escorted a very large quantity of ammunition to Umballa only a few days before the outbreak; the whole regiment volunteered to guard the siege-train on its way to Delhi, and had it conveyed over the Bridge-of-boats in safety; one Company, under Lieutenants Alexander and Chambers, had gone the whole way to Delhi, and remained true for some time. Three Companies were in the Fort at Ludhiana under Lieutenant Yorke, to whom they were perfectly respectful until the arrival of the main body of mutineers from Jalandhar and Phillour. In one respect the regiment behaved well for all the officers were allowed to escape to the Fort. The Guards actually turned out and presented arms to Colonel Butler as he passed by on the way there. It seems certain, however, that their delay in rising was due to a settled plan made with other regiments in the Punjab that all should act on the same day.

The Jalandhar regiments broke out on the night of June 7th, and reached Phillour the next morning. The 3rd B.N.I., which had been warned of their approach, refused to oppose the 6th Light Cavalry, and at once fraternized. The whole lot marched on through Ludhiana to Delhi. Before the arrival of the mutineers, "Mr. Thornton, a young civilian, had ridden over from Ludhiana to Phillour to pay the 3rd B.N.I. The money had been made over to the pay Havildars in the Fort when a disturbance was suddenly heard in the lines, and Mr. Thornton, seeing a party of sepoys moving in the direction of the Bridge-of-boats, suspected mischief. With great promptness he made the Havildars instantly give back the money, and then



galloped off to the river. He reached the bank before the sepoy, crossed the bridge and had it immediately cut away behind him."

Pursuit of the rebels from Jalandhar was delayed, so was irresolute and ineffectual. Mr. Ricketts, Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana, acting with great vigour got together a small body of loyal troops, and some of the Raja of Nabha's, and endeavoured to check the mutineers at the river. The Raja's men bolted, Ricketts fought on with the few remaining until his ammunition was exhausted, when he was obliged to retreat. The best work possible was done by him, and the result was that, on the next day, when the rebels entered Ludhiana, they were afraid to attack the Treasury, and quickly passed on through the place.

The 3rd B.N.I. formed part of the Delhi Garrison throughout the siege, and went south when the city was stormed.

The last details known of it is that the remnant formed part of one of Man Singh's divisions in Central India under Ajhit Singh, which was surprised and annihilated at Bijapur, near Guna, on September 4th, 1858. Out of six hundred three-fourths were killed; between four and five hundred dead bodies were actually counted.

For the formation of the 17th B.N.I. (Wuffadar) see Appendix Cave Browne II.

#### 4TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY (Bailun Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1767. "Carnatie," "Mysore,"  
"Punjab." On the regimental colour a  
Royal tiger underneath a banyan tree.

In May, 1857, the right wing was at Noorpore, commanded by Major Wilkie, and the left wing at Kangra commanded by Major Patterson.

The safety of Kangra Fort was of the highest importance, and it was resolved by Montgomery to disarm the wing garrisoning it.

The 4th had not a very good reputation for it had once mutinied already about Scindh allowances. On May 16th, 1857, a body of the 2nd Battalion of Punjab Police, the Shere Dils, appeared at day-break, marched into the Fort, took up their quarters in the citadel and relieved the magazine guards, the other guards being divided between them and the 4th B.N.I. The sepoys of the left wing were taken utterly by surprise; they laid down their arms, remained orderly and apparently loyal. At the same time the right wing promptly gave up their arms at the orders of Major Wilkie. It remained at Noorpore; the left wing was moved to Hoshiarpur.

Time passed; both wings remained orderly, and apparently loyal, the right was so throughout. Not so the left. "The night of the 5th May, 1858, was to have seen the station at Hoshiarpur given up to fire and sword. Scarcely two hours before gunfire, at 9 o'clock, the time fixed for the massacre—Lieutenant Currie the Adjutant, while riding quietly to the mess house, received a warning from one of his servants, who was watching for him, that he had just discovered a conspiracy which involved the life of every European in the station. He had chanced to go into the workshop of the regimental mistri (armourer) and found him casting bullets.

On asking what it meant, he was told, 'What, don't you know what is going to happen to-night? We are going to murder all the Sahiblogue; the men are told off to attack every house.' The man instantly came and told his master.

"No time was lost; the safety of the ladies was provided for by collecting them all into a central bungalow. Major Patterson, commanding the wing, applied to Mr. Simpson, the Deputy Commissioner, for help; a strong body of police were brought in, while 200 of a new levy mustered and moved down to the lines. Here a roll-call was sounded. All hands turned out, and only two or three men were missing. The whole regiment was now formed on parade, surrounded by police and Sikhs, and a general search commenced. Tulwars were found concealed in the lines, many more, and some matchlocks, in a dry nullah close by; the mistri (blacksmith) was seized; his workshop searched; bullet-moulds and newly-made bullets found in the floor, and the fullest proof obtained that timely notice had saved the station from a most blood-thirsty conspiracy. The wing was, the next day, marched off to Jalandhar, under strong police escort, where a military commission was assembled, under Major Crawford Chamberlain, to investigate the case. By the end of May, more than 200 men of various grades—so wide spread was the conspiracy—were convicted and punished; some blown away from guns, others shot, and the majority transported for life or imprisoned for fourteen years.

"All eyes were instantly turned with anxiety to the right wing which was still at Noorpore under Major

Wilkie. What would they do? and how could their officers escape? But for two and a half years the two wings had been separated, and it was known that little sympathy existed between them. So, when the right wing heard what had happened at Hoshiarpur, they expressed the most vehement indignation, gave up their side-arms at a word from Major Wilkie, and actually petitioned that they might not be sent to Jalandhar and be brought in contact with the miscreants of the left wing. They were allowed to remain at Noorpore; conducted themselves with the utmost propriety, and eventually received back their arms with honour, having given this additional proof of their staunchness and loyalty." (Cave Browne.)

5TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY  
(Grand Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1758. "Baxar," "Carnatie," "Guzerat," "Dehlee," "Deig." On the regimental colour a motto in Persian Humas—Ha—Tyar. Had a third colour for services under Lord Lake. In the 1857 army list, Major F. Maitland in command, and Captain Garstin, second in command. In the 1858 list, Lieutenant-Colonel W. St. L. Mitchell in command, and Major Maitland, second in command.

At the time of the Meerut outbreak this regiment was stationed at Umballa. The men showed signs of disaffection, or panic, on the very same day. They, and also the 60th B.N.I., broke open

their bells of arms and remained armed until evening, but were pacified and forgiven. Some of the 5th had actually loaded and pointed their muskets at the officers. Two Companies were sent to Roopur to keep them out of the way; about half of them deserted on the march, and some, with the intention of doing so, sent off their property to various villages, and afterwards, having changed their minds, had the impudence to ask for it to be recollected for them by the civil authorities. At Roopur they showed a mutinous spirit, insulted their Commanding Officer, Captain Gardner, and prevented the arrest of a malcontent Sikh Sirdar, named Mohur Singh, who was stirring up rebellion.

These two Companies were recalled to Umballa, and the Sikh was arrested by the civil authorities after their departure from Roopur. Five men and Mohur Singh were tried and sentenced to death; so were also four native officers, for the crime of concealing mutiny. The rest of the two Companies were disarmed and disbanded.

The whole regiment should have been disarmed after the occurrence at Umballa, on May 10th, when a plot to massacre the entire European population, while at service in the new church, fell through by an accident. The day before a decision had been come to that the building was not yet fit for use. John Lawrence urged disarmament, but the Commander-in-Chief, considering that a promise had been made to the two regiments that this measure should not be resorted to, refused his consent. On May 27th the Nusseree Battalion arrived at Umballa to join the force assembling for the advance on Delhi. The sepoy on the 5th at

once endeavoured to corrupt the Gurkhas, urging them to join in seizing the siege-train and make off with it to Delhi. The Gurkhas were, however, not to be corrupted, and informed their officers. On the following afternoon the 5th were drawn up on their own parade ground, two Companies of European Fusiliers being close by, and ordered to lay down their arms. The men obeyed without apparent hesitation.

Two Companies under Captain Garstin had been sent to Saharanpur to the aid of the civil authorities who were being threatened by armed villagers. They arrived there on May 30th; the men of these Companies behaved fairly well at first, made a show against the rebellious villagers, and, on one occasion, shot down one of their number who was threatening an officer. A very few days after (June 3rd), however, they broke into open mutiny, and, after attempting the murder of their officers, made off to Delhi.

On August 27th two or three guards furnished by the 5th at Umballa deserted, and in consequence, on the following afternoon, the remainder of the regiment, and the remainder of the 60th, consisting of 200 men, were paraded for marching down to the jail as prisoners. On parade they were fronted by some men of the 8th Regiment and three guns. Immediately the word to march was given the sepoys turned and bolted; they were promptly fired on and pursued. At least 150 were slain. This was the very end of the regiment; a few of them reached the mutineers in Delhi, and fought against us there. Lord Roberts mentions in his book having seen some sepoys with the number on their

caps while reconnoitring in the city on September 20th, and after the assault on the 14th.

#### 6TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised in 1763. "Mysore," "Bhurtapore," "Cabul." In the 1857 army list, Colonel D. Simpson in command, and Captain B. Cary, second in command. In the 1858 list, Colonel Corfield in command.

This regiment was stationed at Allahabad in 1857. It was considered absolutely loyal, and its officers took the greatest interest and pride in their men; "looked on them as their children; cared for their comforts; promoted their amusements, and lived amongst them as comrades." Even after the news of the mutinies at Benares had reached Allahabad every confidence in the 6th prevailed, and a Company with two guns was sent to the Bridge-of-boats to defend the station against possible attack by mutineers from Benares.

Up to the end of May the regiment seemed staunch and even demanded to be led against the rebels at Delhi. On June 6th, at sunset, the thanks of the Governor-General were read out to them on parade, and received with cheers. An hour and a half afterwards they were murdering their officers, women and children, burning houses, and looting property. The alarm was sounded at the Quarters guard to attract the officers to the parade ground, when most of them were at once shot down. Captain Plunkett, the Adjutant, Lieutenant Stewart, Lieutenant Hawes, Ensigns Pringle and Munro were murdered on the parade, and eight

boy-ensigns just arrived from England, and still unposted, were killed at the mess house. One of them named Cheek, aged sixteen, though wounded, escaped for the time being, and was afterwards rescued, but died on June 16th. Colonel Simpson managed to escape to the Fort, so also did Captain Gordon, Lieutenant Hicks, and two cadets. Captain Alexander of the Irregular Cavalry was killed at the Bridge-of-boats. The Fort Adjutant, Captain Birch and Captain Innes, R.E., were also murdered, and so were about twenty-five other Europeans, men, women and children. A Company formed part of the garrison of the Fort with Brassyer's Sikhs, and the situation there, when the outbreak occurred, was doubtful. The Sikhs, however, remained true. The sepoy's of the 6th were promptly disarmed, and expelled from the Fort.

The whole city of Allahabad rose in revolt, and the night was an orgie of murder and robbery. All the Europeans outside the Fort were ruthlessly slain.

On the following morning the Treasury was looted, each mutineer helped himself to three or four bags containing a thousand rupees, and the majority set out for their native villages. Two bands seemed to have kept together, at any rate for a time; one of them arrived in the vicinity of Banda on June 16th, and hearing that some Europeans were sheltered in the palace of the Nawab, who up to that time had remained faithful, demanded that the Feringhis should be given up to them. The Nawab refused, prepared for a vigorous resistance, and sent the refugees in safety to Nagode. In



revenge the sepoy of the 6th set fire to the palace and town.

The other detachment marched to Cawnpore through Futtehpore, where fifty men of the regiment had been stationed before the mutiny, and joined the forces of the Nana. Some of them formed the guard on the Bibighar, and when that devil Nana sent them orders to murder the women and children prisoners, they went so far as to fire their muskets through the windows, without doing very much harm, but refused to enter the house and cut the victims down with swords.

Little can be traced of the scattered remains of this regiment after the flight of the Nana into Oudh. Some of them it is mentioned held out to the last in 1858, on the Nepal frontier, and amongst the miscellaneous rabble whose heinous crimes had debarred them from all hope of amnesty.

#### 7TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Burra Crawford Ka Paltah)

Raised in 1763. "Gazerat," "Allygarh," "Deig" (a detachment 1st Company fought at Sobraon). For services in the West of India, had a motto "Lake and Victory." Army list of 1857, Lieutenant-Colonel Templer in command, Captain W. Birch, second in command. List of 1858, Lieutenant-Colonel Templer in command, Captain R. R. Mainwaring, second in command.

The mutiny of this regiment together with that of the other two of the B.N.I. at Dinapur (8th

and 40th) was precipitated by the weakness of the General commanding at that station; an old, inefficient man. Strongly urged by the European community of Calcutta the Governor-General had given permission, but not an order, to General Lloyd to disarm the three regiments. This as an old, infatuated sepoy officer, he was loath to do, and could only make up his mind to a fatal half measure, that of depriving them of their percussion caps. On the morning of July 25th, 1857, the European troops in the station, 10th Foot, two Companies of the 37th, and a Company of Artillery, were paraded in the great square, the caps in the magazine were removed by an officer with a small guard, and brought into the square. The sepoys of the 7th made noisy demonstrations, and threatened to prevent the removal; they were, however, pacified by their officers. At 10 o'clock an order was issued by General Lloyd for a parade of the three N.I. Regiments, and the collection of the caps in the sepoys' possession. The immediate result was open mutiny. The men seized their arms and began to fire on their officers. The European troops were again paraded, but their advance was so delayed that the mutineers got clear away in the direction of Arrah, where the disaffected Rajput landowner, Kunwar Singh, at once joined them with all his followers.

The prisoners in the jail were released and the Treasury plundered, but the European and Eurasian officers and residents in Arrah had time to unite in a house, previously fortified and stored, in the compound of Mr. Vicars Boyle, Civil Engineer. Including Eurasians they numbered

fifteen, and they had with them fifty of Rattray's Sikhs. Mr. Hereward Wake, the Magistrate, took command of the garrison. Then followed the memorable siege of Arrah. For a whole week, from July 27th, the house was assaulted by the three regiments and Kunwar Singh's retainers, five or six thousand in all; even guns were brought to bear upon it, but it could not be captured, nor could the brave men who held it be intimidated.

On the 29th an attempt to relieve them was made from Dinapur by a force of 343 European troops, 70 Sikhs, and a few gentlemen volunteers, under Captain Dunbar. Badly led, the party fell into an ambush during the night within a mile of Arrah, and were driven back with great loss to the Son. Out of 413 men but half reached Dinapur, only 50 were not hit, and of 15 officers only 3 were unwounded; 2 Captains, including Dunbar, 2 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, 3 Sergeants, 10 Corporals, 3 drummers and 112 privates were killed outright.

The disaster was complete, and it seemed as if the fate of the Arrah Garrison was sealed, for no further help could be expected from the hopeless people at Dinapur. Then an intrepid and skilful soldier, Major Vincent Eyre, appeared upon the scene. On his way up the river to Allahabad with a Company of Artillery he heard, at Buxar, of the situation at Arrah, and of the failure of Captain Dunbar. Collecting 150 men of the 5th Fusiliers, 14 mounted volunteers, and his 34 Artillerymen with three guns, he announced his intention of relieving Arrah to General Lloyd, and, without waiting for sanction, marched to attack the rebels, whom he utterly routed in two engagements on

August 2nd; and on the morning of the 3rd entered Arrah in triumph, relieving the sorely pressed little garrison.

Eyre halted at Arrah for a week, restoring order and completing the equipment of his force, during which time he was reinforced by 200 men of the 10th Foot from Dinapur, and a hundred of Rattray's Sikhs; the fifty Sikhs of the Arrah Garrison, under Wake, and Jackson's Volunteer Horse, were also with him. On August 11th he marched against Kunwar Singh, whose forces were in position in the neighbourhood of his stronghold of Jugdespore. The old Rajput had been joined by many mutineers besides those from Dinapur, and men from nine different revolted regiments were with him. The rebels were again utterly routed. Kunwar Singh fled into the jungles, Jugdespore was occupied and destroyed. The neck of the rebellion in Behar was broken. Eyre and his troops were recalled for other and urgent service elsewhere, and continued their route to Allahabad. The district of Shahabad was, for the time, cleared of the rebels. The 7th, 8th and 40th, who took to themselves the name of "The Fighting Regiments," kept together under the command of Kunwar Singh, who had, in all, still four or five thousand men with him. They moved at first in the direction of Delhi, plundering as they went, but did not go farther than Banda, where they remained with Kunwar Singh.

In September, being without money and stores, they decided to plunder Nagode, and marched to that station then garrisoned by the 50th B.N.I. Arriving there on the 17th, the 50th remained at

first with their officers, and marched out of the station for a short distance, but suddenly turned, and, with the exception of 100 men, joined the Dinapur regiments. The mutineers remained at Nagode for two days, burnt down the station, and then returned to Banda.

Towards the end of October, the 7th, with the 8th, 40th and 50th, and three guns, made a move from Banda, and intelligence reached a detachment of Sir Colin Campbell's army, then advancing on Lucknow, that this rebel force had crossed the Jumna and was about to attack Futtehpore, or march towards Oudh. The British detachment consisted of half of the Naval Brigade, a wing of the 53rd Regiment, a Company of the 93rd, drafts from other regiments and a Company of Engineers, under the command of Colonel Powell.

The rebels were posted at the village of Kajwa, twenty-four miles north-west of Fathpur, were there attacked on November 1st by Colonel Powell, and utterly defeated after a severe engagement in which Colonel Powell was unfortunately killed. The attacking British force numbered 500, of whom 95 were killed and wounded. The rebels numbered 4,000, of whom 300 were killed; they also lost their three guns.

The British had marched seventy-two miles in three days, and were in no condition to pursue the routed mutineers, who fled in all directions, but to reassemble, and still, under Kunwar Singh, make their way into Oudh.

The 7th, still with their Dinapur comrades, fought against the British under Kunwar Singh, and, after that old warrior's death, under his

brother, Mumar Singh. Also all through the arduous campaign in Oudh, from March to November, 1858, until, on the 24th of that month, the main body of the rebels, at Salia Dahar, in the Kaimur hills, was defeated, and finally scattered. The 7th were never afterwards heard of.

#### 8TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Nya Bardwan Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1763. "Buxar," "Mooltan," "Gujerat," "Punjab." Army list of 1857, Lieutenant-Colonel Rowcroft in command. List of 1858, Captain F. I. Wronghton, second in command.

The history of the mutiny of this regiment at Dinapur, and its subsequent movements, is almost identical with that of the 7th. The men of the 8th were not at first so violent and demonstrative as those of the 7th, but at the 10 o'clock parade on July 25th, 1857, they promptly mutinied with the others, and went off with them. A detachment of 200 men was at the time stationed at Hazaribagh; the news of the Dinapur outbreak reached Hazaribagh on the 29th. On the 30th the detachment of the 8th mutinied, drove their officers and the civilian authorities out of the place, plundered the Treasury of 7,000 rupees, released 800 prisoners, burned the bungalows, and dispersed in the direction of Palamow; some crossed the country to Sherghoti. It was reported, a few days later, that they had thrown away their arms, and had been plundered of their treasure by the Zemindars.

The main body of the regiment kept with the

## 92 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

7th and 40th, "The Fighting Regiments," as they called themselves, until they were finally broken up at Salia Dahar by General Douglas. Some of the 8th were heard of once afterwards. A party sent out by General Carpenter (after the defeat of rebels, under General Whitlock, on December 29th, 1858, at Panwari) at daybreak, on January 2nd, 1859, surprised a body of 300 mutineers of the 8th, 49th and other Bengal regiments in the village of Kureera. Very few of these rebels escaped.

### 9TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Jellascor Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1761. "Buxar," "Deeg." 1857 army list, Lieutenant-Colonel I. E. Sanders in command. 1858 list, Major Eld in command, and Captain Angus, second in command. Donald Stewart, Commander-in-Chief 1880, was one of the Lieutenants. In May, 1857, the headquarters were at Aligarh; detachments at Mynpuri, Etawah and Bulandshahr.

The 9th B.N.I. was considered the pattern regiment of the Bengal Army. "The Corps had always been a good one, well behaved, and well drilled; the officers felt the utmost confidence in their men, and this feeling was apparently reciprocated." Up to the last moment the conduct of the men at Aligarh was exemplary, and they had given up several spies who had entered the lines and had tried to corrupt them. On the morning of May 20th one such emissary, as it happened a high-class Brahmin, was caught and delivered up.

A court martial of native officers was at once assembled, and the Brahmin was condemned to death. On the same evening he was hanged in the presence of the regiment drawn up on parade. Just as the parade was about to be dismissed a detachment from Bulandshahr marched in to rejoin headquarters. One sepoy stepped out of its ranks, and, pointing to the gallows, cried out, "Behold a martyr to our faith." In an instant the men who had acquiesced in the sentence, and assisted at the execution, broke out into wild mutiny, plundered the Treasury, broke open the jail doors, and went off in a body to join the mutineers in Delhi. No violence, or even disrespect, was offered to the British officers. They were simply dismissed. The detachments at Etawah, Bulandshahr and Mynpuri quickly followed suit.

At Mynpuri one officer greatly distinguished himself, Lieutenant de Kantzow, by remaining among the mutinied sepoys, notwithstanding their threats to kill him. With muskets levelled at him, for three hours, he stood up to the two Companies in front of the Treasury, with a few men of the jail, endeavouring to quiet them, and to get them to return to their duty. In this he failed as they went off to Delhi, but he did succeed in preventing them from breaking open the Treasury and the jail.

A few at Mynpuri remained faithful, and their good conduct reported by de Kantzow was immediately rewarded. "Seikh Kadr Baksh, Pay Havildar of the 5th Company, and Senior Havildar of the 9th Regiment to be Subadars in the army."

Orisan Singh, Pay Havildar of the Light Company, to be a Subadar in the army.



Mofussilite, June 2nd, 1857. Noor Khan, sepoy of the 6th Company, is promoted to the rank of Havildar in the army, and further is admitted to the Order of Merit. The promotion is given for gallantry and the decoration for saving his officer's life. Ajoodia Dobey, sepoy, 6th Company, Bulie Singh, sepoy, 3rd Company, to be Havildars; Chadie, sepoy, 6th Company, Chandry Choby, sepoy, 6th Company, to be Naiks. By order of the Hon. the Lieutenant-Governor of the N.W.P. Phoenix, 28th June, 1857.

The detachments at Bulandshahr and Etawah mutinied on the 25th. Both affairs were bloodless, but the Treasuries were plundered, and the civil prisoners released; the mutineers marched off to Delhi. As at Mynpuri a few men remained true, and were rewarded.

"9th Regiment N.I., Jemadar Sheodeen Singh, 4th Company, to be a Subadar in the army, and his name to be forwarded to the Supreme Government for the first vacancy for the honourable grade of Bahadar. Havildar Hunuman Singh, 1st Company, and Havildar Nand Lal Tewari, 1st Company, to be Subadars in the army."

At Delhi the 9th B.N.I. fought with daring against us; many of their bodies were found on the field after various encounters. On June 26th a large number of sepoys were seen to leave the city in confusion, fired on with grape and pursued by troopers. They succeeded in reaching our outposts, and, having given themselves up, were found to be men of the 9th from Aligarh, who, from some cause of offence or jealousy on the part of the other mutineers, had been refused subsistence or pay.

They had rushed to surrender to the British, relying on their humane conduct towards their officers at Aligarh for forgiveness.

Many years after the mutiny Forbes Mitchell was applied to by an old soldier named Doorga Singh for a job as durwan in the factory under F.M.'s charge. He had belonged to the 9th, and was present at Aligarh when the regiment mutinied; fought against us throughout the siege of Delhi; afterwards at Lucknow, and throughout the Oudh campaigns. "But, Sahib," he said, "the 9th Regiment was almost the only regiment which did not murder its officers. We gave each of them three months pay in advance from the Treasury, and escorted them, and their families within a safe distance of Agra before we went to Delhi, and all of us who lived to come through the mutiny were pardoned by the Government." This was true (? about the advance of pay). The remnant of the regiment surrendered after the battle of Nawabjunge, in 1858, when Bakht Khan was killed.

#### 10TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Duffel Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1763. "Buxar," "Korah," "Pegu."  
1857 army list, Colonel G. A. Smith in command. 1858 list, Captain Martineau, second in command. Deaths in 1857, Captain Bignell, Ensign Byrne, Lieutenant Fitzgerald, Lieutenant Henderson, Major Lindsay, 18th June; Major Munro, Captain Phillimore, Major Phillot, 11th

July; Lieutenant Simpson, Colonel Smith, 15th July; Captain Law, 23rd July, and Lieutenant Swetenham.

This regiment was stationed at Fattehghar when the mutiny broke out. The temper of the men was for some time doubtful, and their behaviour difficult to understand. On one point their intentions were quite clear, their primary object was plunder. They behaved well in suppressing an outbreak in the jail, and in obeying orders to destroy the Bridge-of-boats across the Ganges, a military measure considered necessary by Colonel Smith. On the other hand they prevented the removal of the treasure into the so-called "Fort," and their demeanour was sullen. Still there seemed reason to think they would carry on. On 16th of June they handed to the Commanding Officer a letter written to them by the Subadar Major of the 41st, a regiment which had mutinied at Sitapur, announcing that he and his Corps had arrived within a few miles of Fattehgarh, and calling on the 10th to murder their officers and seize the treasure.

The N.O. who had handed the letter to Colonel Smith told him that the regiment had replied to the 41st that they would remain true to their salt. Yet two days afterwards these same people warned him that their allegiance was over, and that all the British had better retire into the Fort.

The Treasury was then plundered and the money divided. The regiment tendered allegiance to the Nawab of Farrackabad, placed him on the Masnad with a royal salute, and laid their colours at his feet. The great majority of the 10th were Bhojpureras who all crossed the river and made

for their homes with their loot. Many did not get there, being plundered in their turn, and murdered, by villagers. Those who remained were attacked by the 41st, who arrived on the day after the looting of the Treasury, and had two grievances against the 10th; the first that they had not killed their officers, the second their refusal to share the spoil. Actual fighting took place between the two regiments and some of the 10th were killed. The survivors per force threw in their lot with the 41st, assisted in the siege of the Fort, the massacres of the fugitives that followed, and, eventually, joined the forces of the Nana at Cawnpore; subsequently forming part of the rebel forces in Oudh throughout the campaigns of 1858. They remained together as a unit, were recruited up to a strength of 500, and took part in the battle of Amorha, near Fyzabad. Nothing more is recorded of the 10th; they went the way of all the others.

## 11TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Runseet Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1763. "Gujerat," "Bhurtpore."

1857 list, Colonel J. Finnis in command.

1858 list, Captain E. L. Dennis, second in command.

This regiment had not been long at Meerut when the mutiny broke out at that station, on May 10th, 1857. It had not been entirely corrupted, was inclined to hang back, and its conduct throughout contrasted favourably with that of the 20th B.N.I. and 3rd Cavalry. Like many of the rebel corps it broke chiefly by reason of fear of retaliation by

the British for crimes committed by other regiments, fear of death, or transportation across the black water.

On the fatal evening, the C.O., Colonel Finnis, and the other British officers, hearing the tumult rode to the native Infantry lines and endeavoured to calm the maddened sepoys. Colonel Finnis, while addressing his own men, was murdered by those of the 20th, and fell riddled with bullets. The 11th did not molest any of their other officers, and connived at their escape; they were still wavering, and the two crowds faced each other. According to some accounts the men of the 20th commenced to fire into the 11th. However that may have been, common interests prevailed, and they soon fraternized, the 11th joining in the incendiarism and plunder, but still half heartedly. Some detachments at different parts of this station preserved their normal attitude, and the guard on the Treasury eventually handed over their charge intact to British soldiers. As elsewhere related, owing to the ineptitude of the General and Brigadier, the British troops did not reach the B.N.I. lines until dusk; by that time the mutineers had disappeared, and were well on their way to Delhi. Comparatively few of the 11th joined in this forced march, the majority found quarters in neighbouring villages for forty-eight hours, and then went on to Delhi; 125 returned to Meerut, gave themselves up, and were pardoned. They were again given, at their urgent requests and protestations, employment as district police; in this capacity they remained strictly loyal in spite of the scorn and reproaches of the native population of

Meerut. They did good service of importance, such as escort of treasure, and many were slain on duty. Ninety-nine remained to form a nucleus of one of the reconstituted regiments. It is recorded that the rebel B.N.I. regiments from Meerut marched into Delhi, on the forenoon of May 11th, in correct military formation by sub-divisions of Companies, with fixed bayonets and sloped arms. Probably only a few of the 11th were included in this body of mutineers; some, however, were present at the battle of Hindun when the rebels attempted to check the advance of the British troops from Meerut. One, a Havildar named Devisingh, who had been pardoned and allowed to go on leave, exploded an ammunition wagon of ours by firing his musket into it, so causing the death of Captain Andrews of the 60th Rifles, and some others. He then laid down as if dead, but was kicked up by Surgeon Biddle, and bayoneted by men of the Rifles.

Nothing much was heard of the 11th after this. It is probable that not many of it went to Delhi, and that they did not keep together as a regiment there.

#### 12TH-REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Hote Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1763. "Carnatic," "Laswarri," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon." 1857—Major Kirke (died 19th June, 1857) in command, Captain Dunlop, second in command. 1858—Colonel W. J. Thompson in command.

The left wing mutinied at Jhansi on June 6th,

1857, the right at Nowgong on June 11th. Captain Dunlop commanded at Jhansi, and the story was much the same as those at other places where mutiny took place. Up to the day before the outbreak the sepoys were respectful and protested loyalty; on the following morning they murdered their officers. The remaining Europeans, with Captain Skene, the Deputy Commissioner, took refuge in the small Town Fort, where they defended themselves for two days against the mutineers, and the troops of the Rani of Jhansi. Unable to hold out longer they surrendered under a solemn promise from the Rani that their lives would be spared, and that they would be escorted to a British station, but directly the helpless, unarmed people left the Fort the cruel and treacherous woman ordered them to be seized and bound. They were all, men, women and children, killed in circumstances of great atrocity.

This wing of the regiment joined the forces of the Rani of Jhansi and Tantia Topi, and fought throughout the campaign of 1858 in Central India, until the rebel army was utterly defeated and scattered at the battle of Gwalior. Little further mention is made in any of the chronicles of this wing, excepting that when Major Gall captured the Fort of Sumpter in April, 1858, the defenders were mutineers of the 12th Regiment who fought desperately until all were killed.

The right wing of the 12th mutinied at Nowgong three days after the Jhansi tragedy, but shed less blood. Eighty-seven sepoys remained temporarily faithful, and volunteered to escort their officers, with their wives and children, and other Europeans

and Eurasians, to some place of safety. The survivors of the party, gradually deserted by their escort after a fortnight of terrible privation, reached Nagode. Many, including Major Kirke, died on the way from heat and fatigue.

This wing marched off to Cawnpore and is mentioned as forming part of the Nana's army, but little is said about its subsequent proceedings; it probably melted away in Oudh and the Terai.

### 13TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Gaurud Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1764. "Guzerat," "Mysore," "Punjab," "Goojerat." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Boyd in command, and Major Bruere, second in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Graves in command.

On the evening of the 30th May, 1857, at Lucknow, a sepoy of this regiment, who had previously been rewarded by Sir Henry Lawrence for having assisted in the capture of a spy, came to Captain Wilson, also of the 13th B.N.I., officiating A.A.G., and told him that a mutiny of the native troops in the Mariaon Cantonment had been arranged for 9 p.m. that night. It was to commence in the lines of the 71st B.N.I., the most disaffected of the three B.N.I. Regiments at Mariaon. Punctually at gun fire the outbreak occurred; bungalows were set on fire, and officers murdered. The majority of the 13th remained faithful; 300 fell in on their parade ground under



the C.O., Major Bruere, and were marched off by him to take post alongside the 32nd Foot, complete with their officers, colours, and treasure chest. On the following day fifty more turned up from the lines and reported that they had saved the magazine of the regiment.

Those of the 13th who had joined the mutineers of the other Mariahon regiments went off with them towards Sitapore and in the direction of Delhi, joined mutineers from that place, and returned to take part in the siege of Lucknow. During the pursuit, on the morning of the 31st, Mr. Gubbins took three of them prisoners; these were afterwards hanged. On June 28th a party of the 13th, with some of the 71st, and European Volunteer Cavalry, were sent to bring in treasure from the King's Palace. This they did and found also a large gun.

The cantonment having been utterly destroyed by fire, the troops were camped close by the 32nd and guns, in the position formerly occupied by them; the 13th next to the 32nd, the 71st next, then the 48th and 7th Cavalry on the right. On June 13th the loyal remnants of the 13th were brought from cantonments to camp inside the Residency Compound. After the battle of Chinhut, on June 30th, in which the loyal portion of the 13th took part, the whole of the British force was withdrawn inside the fortified Residency. The Sikhs of the 13th, about fifty in number, had been, at their own request on June 15th, formed into a Company under the command of Captain Germon, and sent to form part of the garrison of Fort Muchee Bhawn, a post which Sir Henry Lawrence had intended to hold

as well as the Residency. The Chinhut disaster led to a change of plan, and, on the day following it, in obedience to signalled orders from Sir Henry Lawrence, Muchee Bhawn was blown up, and its garrison joined that of the Residency. Sixteen of these Sikhs deserted during the siege, the others remained firm, and formed part of the garrison of the Judicial Commissioner's office. Excepting the Sikhs, and a small number told off to Innes's Post under Lieutenant Loughnan, the loyal 13th B.N.I. held the Baillie Guard, perhaps the most important position in the whole of the defences, under Lieutenant Aitken of their own regiment, and greatly distinguished themselves throughout the siege; particularly in some incidents recorded by Captain Wilson and others. On July 9th a determined attack was made by the enemy on the Baillie Guard, but repulsed by steady fire from the 13th, and a few rounds of grape. On the 20th of the same month the enemy repeatedly attempted to storm Innes's and other posts, but were driven back each time with great slaughter.

Towards the end of August, "the 13th were employed in making a new sunken battery for an 18 lb. gun to the right of the guard-room, in order to oppose a battery of the enemy situated in the Lutkun Darwaza." On September 5th, during an attack by the enemy, "eight sepoy of the 13th B.N.I., assisted by three Artillerymen, loaded and worked the 18 pounder in the 13th Battery, and after three or four rounds succeeded in silencing the 18 pounder opposed to them. The sepoy were very proud of this battery, which was entirely under their charge, and constructed entirely by them

under the superintendence of the Engineers." (Malleeson.)

On September 4th Major Bruere was killed, to the great grief of the men of the 13th B.N.I. whom he commanded, and with whom he was very popular. They insisted on carrying his body to the grave, ignoring their caste, and his funeral was attended by all of them who could leave their trenches. Brigadier Inglis, in his report to the Secretary to Government Military Department, wrote: "With respect to the native troops, I am of opinion that their loyalty has never been surpassed. They were indifferently fed and worse housed. They were exposed, especially the 13th Regiment, under the gallant Lieutenant Aitken, to a most galling fire of round shot and musketry, which materially reduced their numbers. They were so near the enemy that conversation could be carried on between them; and every effort, persuasion, promise and threat was alternately resorted to, in vain, to seduce them from their allegiance to the handful of Europeans, who, in all probability, would have been sacrificed by their desertion. All the troops behaved nobly, and the names of those men of the native force who have particularly distinguished themselves have been laid before Major-General Sir James Outram, G.C.B., who has promised to promote them."

In September an advance of a month's pay was offered to all natives and declined by the 13th, and others, as they preferred to receive it in arrears afterwards. This spoke well for their faithfulness.

In a notification of the Governor-General in council of December 8th, 1857, occurs this

passage: "Of the native officers and men of the 13th, 48th, and 71st Regiments of Native Infantry who have been amongst the defenders of the Residency, it is difficult to speak too highly. Their courageous constancy under the severest trials is worthy of all honour." And in a general order, "Every native commissioned and non-commissioned officer and soldier who has formed part of the garrison shall receive the Order of Merit, with the increase of pay attached thereto, and shall be permitted to count three years of additional service. The soldiers of the 13th, 48th and 71st Regiments of Native Infantry, who have been part of the garrison, shall be formed into a regiment of the line to be called 'The Regiment of Lucknow,' the further constitution of which as regards officers and men will be notified hereafter."

14TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY  
(Escotten Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1764. "Seringapatam," "Maharajpur," "Ferozshuhur." On regimental colour was an embroidered star for Seringapatam. 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Gerrard (killed before Delhi) in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Jones in command.

In July, 1857, this regiment was stationed at Jhelum; it was known to be mutinous for some time before the actual dénouement, and the Chief Commissioner, Sir John Lawrence, resolved to disarm it. In order to facilitate this measure two Companies were brought into Rawalpindi where the 58th B.N.I. were stationed, and it was decided

that the disarming should take place simultaneously at both cantonments. At Rawalpindi, on July 7th, there was a parade of all troops, British and native, avowedly to hear a general order read, but the real object being to disarm the natives. The order having been read the British Infantry and Artillery were suddenly ordered to wheel to the left; the sepoys at once saw what was intended and fled from the parade ground in panic. The 58th were followed to their lines by their officers, and peaceably gave up their arms; but the two Companies of the 14th made for the city and the adjoining villages; they were pursued and all were either killed or taken.

At Jhelum occurred a very different affair; a force consisting of three Companies of the Queen's 24th Regiment, a few Horse Artillery, and the recently raised Mooltani Horse, was despatched from Rawalpindi, and reached Jhelum early on the morning of July 7th. As soon as the sepoys saw the British force approaching they opened fire upon it, and established themselves in their lines, where they made a desperate resistance. The Sikhs of the regiment, and the British officers, quickly joined the force from Rawalpindi. The fight went on all day; the mutineers were driven from the lines, but, still 300 strong, occupied the neighbouring village of Saemli, and continued the struggle. On the whole they had the best of it. The British lost 150 men and one gun, and by night-fall the sepoys were still in possession of the village. During the night, however, they lost heart, and scattered one way and another. During the week that followed they were almost all killed, or captured and

executed. On the morning of the 7th July they were 600 strong; 100 Sikhs separated themselves; of the remaining 500, 150 were killed in the fight, 300 were subsequently captured, only fifty or so escaped. The regiment ceased to exist.

## 15TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Doo Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1764. "Bhurtpore," "Punjab,"  
"Chillianwalla," "Guzerat." 1857—  
Brevet Colonel Shuldham in command.  
1858—Brevet Colonel Shuldham in  
command.

This regiment was moved from Meerut to Nasirabad in March, 1857. It was known to be disaffected by everybody excepting its own officers, who had a mistaken belief in the loyalty of their men. On May 28th it mutinied, together with the 30th B.N.I. and a Battery of Artillery. The mutineers of the 15th did their best to murder their officers, but made such bad shooting that none were hit. On the following morning the regiment marched off to Delhi with the other components of "the Nasirabad Brigade," arriving there on June 16th. It fought throughout the siege. When the city was taken it went off south, still with the other Nasirabad mutineers, and, with them, was routed at Kari Nadi; those that were left made their way into Oudh.

After Delhi was taken some curious papers were found. These were general orders issued by the rebel C. in C., written in Persian, and stamped with a seal, giving details of the daily disposition

## 108 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

of troops, regiments, brigades, reliefs of guards, pickets, etc. The 15th B.N.I. was constantly mentioned in them. Captain Prichard, who had belonged to the regiment, writes that he was astonished to find the rapid promotion a former friend of his, named Bhagerati Misr, had gained. This man, when the mutiny occurred, was Subadar of the Light Company, was much trusted by the Colonel, and, the evening before the mutiny, was walking up and down his verandah, talking confidentially. The Subadar rewarded the Colonel's trust by annexing his charger and probably also his uniform. In Delhi he became a Brigadier-General with four or five regiments under him.

In November, 1858, some men of the 15th were amongst the 1,500 sepoy who escaped from the fort of Amathie while Lord Clyde was negotiating with the Raja Lal Madho Singh for its surrender.

In April, 1859, the 3rd Regiment Hodson's Horse had an affair with the rebels remaining in the field at a place called Koel Ka Jangal in the Gonda district; 300 sepoy were killed, and the colours of the 15th were captured. This is the last time the regiment was mentioned.

### 16TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Hossainee Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1765. "Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Afghanistan," "Ghaznee," (Candahar Ghaznee Cabul 1842) "Maharajpore," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon." Had on its colours an embroidered star for Seringapatam, and a Royal tiger under a

banyan tree for Mysore. 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. Sherer in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel R. Houghton in command.

When the mutiny broke out at Meerut the 16th Grenadiers were at Meean Meer with two other B.N.I. Regiments, the 26th and 48th, and also the 8th Light Cavalry; outnumbering the British troops (the 81st and two troops of Horse Artillery; not more than 250 all told) by four to one. Information having reached the civil authorities that these native troops were thoroughly disaffected, and ripe for revolt, it was decided to disarm them without delay. The measure was successfully carried out at a parade of the whole garrison on the morning of May 13th. The sepoy and sowars were taken completely by surprise, and gave up their arms when suddenly faced by the 81st and Artillery with loaded guns. The 16th are said to have hesitated for a minute. Some of them deserted and fought with the Nasirabad, and some Indore troops, at the battle of Kari Nadi, on October 10th, 1857. Many of their dead bodies were left on the field.

#### 17TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Barkur Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1765. Late 2nd Battalion 11th B.N.I. 1857—Major Burroughs in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Polwhele (forty-two years' service) in command and Major Burroughs second in command.

This had always been a very indifferent regiment.



At the time of the Meerut outbreak it was at Azimgarh, commanded by an incompetent officer, consequently disorder reigned. The sepoy did just as they pleased, and were the terror of the European inhabitants. At the end of May the Accountant General of the N.W.P., as the U.P. were then called, issued an order for the removal of ten lakhs from Gorakhpur, and seven from Azimgarh, to Benares. The ten lakhs from the former station reached Azimgarh on June 2nd in charge of an escort of the 13th Irregular Cavalry, sent from Benares under Lieutenant Palliser, who took over also the remaining seven lakhs. The 17th then threw over all disguise and made an attempt to prevent the treasure leaving the station. This failed owing to the loyalty of the Irregular Cavalry; and the money left Azimgarh on the evening of June 3rd in charge of the original escort, and, in addition, two Companies of the 17th. It had been Lieutenant Palliser's intention to disarm these two Companies as soon as he got well clear of the station and on his march; deceived, however, by their fervent protestations he did not do so. Scarcely three hours after he had started the six Companies of the 17th, left in Azimgarh, broke into open revolt, murdered their Quartermaster, Lieutenant Hutchinson, and severely wounded the European Quartermaster, Sergeant Lewis. The sepoy who shot Lieutenant Hutchinson when serving, some time afterwards, as a pointsman on the E.I. Railway, imprudently confided the story of his exploit to a detective. He was tried by Mr. H. G. Keene, District and Sessions Judge of Agra, and hanged.

With the inconsistency so often displayed by the mutineers, the sepoy's not only spared the lives of the rest of the officers and their families, but collected their carriages for them, and started them off on their road to Ghazipur, giving them an escort for ten miles out of the station. The next step was to break open the jail, release all the prisoners, and, accompanied by them, and the police, to set off hot-foot after the treasure. The excited crowd soon overtook Lieutenant Palliser; his troopers stood by him so far as to protect him, and two officers with him, but would do no more. He was compelled, therefore, to abandon the treasure, and was conducted by his men to Benares. They deserted the next day.

Another example of strange inconsistency was shown on this occasion. The sepoy's of the 17th, who had shortly before spared and protected their own officers, now thirsted for the blood of those of the Irregular Cavalry, imploring, in vain, the sowars to kill them.

The mutineers went back to Azimgarh with the treasure, found the station deserted by the civil authorities and most of the Europeans, then, "flushed with success they marched off to Fyzabad in military array, with all the pomp and panoply of war." At Fyzabad, in accordance with pre-concerted plans, the 17th joined the 22nd and native Artillery, both of which had promptly mutinied on their approach within a few miles, on the night of June 7th.

The Fyzabad mutineers wished to get rid of their officers, but were not inclined to murder them as they could easily have done; they confined the

officers for the night in their own Quarter Guard, and in the morning started them down the River Gogra. Again occurred the strange inconsistency; scarcely had the British officers got clear of Fyzabad when the 22nd sent a message to the 17th, then in camp at Begumgunj on the bank of the Gogra, to intercept and kill them all. The 17th were only too ready, and opened fire on the boats as soon as they came opposite the camp. Almost all the officers were killed, either in the boats, on the banks, or in their flight across country. It is said that the Subadar commanding the rebels, an old man belonging to the 17th B.N.I., appealed to the Mahomedans on the Koran, and to the Hindus on the Cow, not to injure some of their prisoners from the boats, but he was not listened to; a very few succeeded in reaching Dinapur.

Before very long, soon after the 17th had joined the 22nd at Fyzabad, a quarrel arose between them over the silver that the former had brought away with them; the latter demanded a share which was refused, and a fight was imminent. Eventually a compromise was arrived at, and the 17th handed over a lakh and sixty thousand. In consequence of this little dispute the two regiments parted company, and the 17th marched away by cross roads viâ Roy Bareilly to Cawnpore, where they arrived just in time to take part in the massacre. They were posted on the Oudh bank of the river with some guns, and concealed until the signal was given. After this the 17th became part of the Nana's army, and took part in the battles of Futtehpore on July 12th, at Aung on the 15th, at

Cawnpore on the 16th, and at Bithoor on the 17th, which resulted in the recapture of Cawnpore, and the flight of the Nana and his followers into Oudh.

In the following month, as soon as Havelock commenced his advance towards Lucknow, the Nana began to reassemble troops at Bithoor, with the idea of overwhelming the small force left to garrison Cawnpore. By the middle of August Havelock, having three or four times defeated the enemy opposed to him, nevertheless decided to fall back on Cawnpore, and recrossed the river on the 13th. By this time the rebels at Bithoor numbered 4,000, were very strongly posted, and among them were what remained of the 17th. Havelock attacked and utterly defeated them on August 16th. The routed rebels recrossed into Oudh, and continued fighting against us for more than eighteen months. The last mention of the 17th is that, in company with men of the 28th and 32nd B.N.I., it formed part of the garrison of the Fort of Rampur in Oudh, but was driven out of it with great loss, after fighting determinedly, by a force under Brigadier Wetherall, on November 3rd, 1858.

#### 18TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Raja Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1776. "Bhurtpore," "Punjab."

1857—Major Pearson in command.

1858—Major Pearson in command.

This regiment mutinied on May 31st, 1857, with the other native troops at Bareilly. The men hesitated for some time, being kept together by their officers, and until threatened by the native

## 114 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Artillery who had mutinied. They concealed the officers and allowed them to escape, but five were murdered in their flight by the villagers of Rampati. The Adjutant, Lieutenant Gowan, after five months' wandering and concealments by friendly natives, eventually reached Meerut on October 31st.

The 18th went off with the rest of the Bareilly Brigade under Bakht Khan, were a month on the march to Delhi, delayed by difficulty in crossing the swollen Ganges. They reached the city on July 1st and 2nd, and were at once concerned in an attack of a half-hearted description towards Alipore in the rear of the British Camp. On the 4th July Bakht Khan drew off, and retired into Delhi, leaving his baggage behind him. There was little loss on either side on this occasion.

The 18th B.N.I. marched out of Delhi with their Brigade on August 25th, together with the Nimach troops, but returned to the city without taking part in the battle of Najafgarh. After the fall of Delhi they went off south into Oudh with the others, but I can find no further mention of them as a regiment.

### 19TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Ung Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1776. Late 2nd Battalion 3rd B.N.I.

1857 — Lieutenant-Colonel Mitchell in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel S. G. Wheler (thirty-nine years' service) in command.

In February, 1857, the 19th B.N.I. was stationed at Berhampore, together with the 11th Irregular

Cavalry and two post guns. On the 25th of the month a Company of the 34th B.N.I. arrived on escort duty from Barrackpore, bringing with them imaginary details of the supposed attempt of the Government to force the use of cartridges greased with beef-fat, and omitting nothing that might alarm and inflame their hearers. The determination of the Barrackpore Brigade to mutiny on the first convenient occasion was dilated on. On the 26th the C.O., Colonel Mitchell, ordered a parade on the following morning for exercise with blank ammunition. On the evening of the same day the sepoy of the 19th refused to take the percussion caps which were being served out to them for use at the next morning's parade, fearing that the cartridges to be used had been defiled. Colonel Mitchell assembled the native officers, and made them an angry speech, threatening that if the cartridges were refused on the morrow the regiment would be sent to Burma or China. During the night the panic-stricken sepoy rose in a body, seized their arms, loaded with the very ammunition they suspected, and stood irresolute on their parade ground. On hearing the commotion Colonel Mitchell turned out the 11th Irregular Cavalry and the two guns of a native battery, and led them to the lines of the 19th. The native officers were again assembled, and again angrily harangued. They begged for patience, and represented the men as stricken with fear, wildly excited and incapable of listening to reason in the face of what seemed to them destruction. The result of the parley was that Colonel Mitchell withdrew the Cavalry and the guns, upon which the sepoy withdrew to the lines

and lodged their arms. On the following morning the regiment appeared on parade, submissive and repentant, and, for the remainder of its existence, discipline and conduct were exemplary. It was, however, resolved by Government that it should be disbanded at Barrackpore in the presence of all troops available. Its doom was only delayed until Her Majesty's 84th Foot should arrive from Burma. On March 20th its march from Berhampore commenced, and on the 30th it reached Barsut, eight miles from Barrackpore; here emissaries from its former ill-advisers, the 34th B.N.I., were waiting to urge resistance to disbandment, the murder of all officers, and the promise of the support of all the native troops in Barrackpore. The sepoys of the 19th, who had never been at heart mutinous, absolutely refused these tempting offers.

On the following day the regiment was marched on to the parade ground, where were assembled Her Majesty's 84th, a wing of Her Majesty's 53rd, a troop of Horse Artillery from Dum Dum, a troop of Madras Horse Artillery, the Governor-General's bodyguard, and the four native regiments composing the Barrackpore Brigade. The disarmament was carried out with all due solemnity; the general order for disbandment was read; the sepoys obeyed without hesitation the command to pile arms and hang their belts on the bayonets; the colours of the regiment were placed on a small pile of crossed muskets; the men were marched off to a distance from their arms, and the pay due to them was disbursed.

In consideration of their good behaviour during

the five weeks that had elapsed since their outbreak they were not stripped of their uniforms, and were provided with transport to convey them to their homes. These men were undoubtedly sorrowful, penitent and full of longing for revenge on the 34th B.N.I. who had misled them. They marched off to Chinsura in a body, cheering General Hearsey as they left.

The only other mention that I can find is that some of them, when passing through Cawnpore on the way to their homes, openly stated to the native troops there that they had had a difference of opinion with Government on the subject of the new cartridges supposed to be defiled.

#### 20TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Baillie Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1776. Late 2nd Battalion 5th B.N.I. "Punjab," "Chillianwalla," "Goojerat." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Craigie Halkett in command. 1858—Captain C. H. Burchard in command.

This regiment was the first of the Bengal Native Infantry to break into open revolt, and, with the 3rd Bengal Cavalry, to initiate the Great Mutiny.

The 11th B.N.I., which lay alongside the 20th at Meerut, at first hung back, until, it is said, it was fired into by the 20th.

The outbreak on the evening of May 10th carried out a programme which was afterwards followed by mutineers in other stations. The sepoys seized their arms; murdered the officers who attempted to pacify them; set fire to their bungalows; plundered



or destroyed their property; murdered also all Europeans, men, women and children, they came across; broke open the jail and released the criminals confined there; were joined in the work of murder, pillage and destruction by all the budmashes of the city and bazaars; and then, to save their skins, made off to Delhi to unite with other rebels there concentrating.

The 20th killed four of their officers, and also Colonel Finnis of the 11th B.N.I. There were also some of the strange inconsistencies which often afterwards occurred in other places. Some detachments on guard duty in the European part of the cantonment remained faithful after their comrades had broken into revolt, and were saluting their officers, whilst, in another part of the station, other men of their regiment were murdering them. At the pension pay office and the Cantonment Magistrate's office the men of the 20th stood firm, and even at the Treasury the guard remained faithful; and later handed over their charge intact to a guard of the 60th Rifles. These loyal few were allowed to remain in the service. On their night march from Meerut to Delhi the mutineers kept to the high road, passing through the villages of Begumabad, Moradnagger, Farracknagger and Shahderah, and in fear of pursuit the whole way; they covered the forty miles by 9 a.m. the next morning, and entered the city. Their arrival was the signal for the revolt of the Delhi Garrison.

A detachment of the 20th B.N.I. was stationed at Mozaffanagar when the outbreak at Meerut occurred; three days afterwards the men composing it broke out also, plundered the Treasury, and

made for Moradabad with as much money as they could carry with them; there was no one to prevent them, the British Magistrate, a rare exception, having renounced all show of authority. On the evening of the 18th news of the approach of this detachment, and of its arrival at the Gangun Bridge, about five miles distant, was received at Moradabad, and an expedition was at once organized to fall upon it. The little Moradabad force was made up of thirty Irregular sowars, and a Company of the 29th B.N.I., up to that time loyal. The rebel camp was surprised, one mutineer was shot, eight or so were made prisoners, and ten thousand rupees recovered. It was a black night, and, in the darkness, all the rebels escaped into the jungle. On the following morning a few of them had the effrontery to show themselves in the Moradabad Cantonment. One of them was shot dead by a Sikh of the 29th B.N.I., and four were taken prisoners and lodged in the civil jail. It was, unfortunately, the case that the mutineer who was killed was a relative of a man of the 29th B.N.I., who, in revenge, persuaded a number of the worst characters in his regiment to join him. They broke open the jail, released the 20th B.N.I. mutineers, and all the criminals confined in it.

After entering Delhi the 20th does not seem to have distinguished itself as a regiment. There is no further mention of it after the end of June.

## 21ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Neelwar Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1776. Late 2nd Battalion 9th  
B.N.I. "Laswarrie," "Bhurtapore."

## 120 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

1857—Major Milne in command. 1858  
—Major Milne in command.

In May, 1857, there were five B.N.I. Regiments at Peshawar, the 21st, 24th, 27th, 51st and 64th. It was resolved to disarm four of them, and this was done on the 22nd of that month. The 21st being the senior of the five regiments, and having shown no sign of disaffection, was exempted, and remained loyal. It afterwards became the 1st Bengal Native Infantry.

### 22ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Bole Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1778. Late 2nd Battalion  
2nd B.N.I. "Carnatic," "Dehlee,"  
"Punjab." 1857 — Brevet Colonel  
Lennox (thirty-eight years' service) in  
command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Cor-  
field in command.

This regiment mutinied at Fyzabad on June 8th together with the 6th Oudh Irregular Infantry, the 15th Irregular Cavalry and the 13th Native Light Field Battery. The last named did not spontaneously mutiny, but was overwhelmed by the sepoys. There were no British troops in the station. The men of the 22nd, after having secured the guns, behaved with strange moderation. They made prisoners of their officers, but continued to treat them with respect; protected them from the sowars who were intent on murder, and provided boats in order that they might leave the station and escape down the River Gogra on the following

morning. All this, however, was nothing but treachery; a message had been sent to the 17th B.N.I. encamped a few miles down the river, to intercept the boats and slay their occupants; most of the officers perished. The Subadar Major of the 22nd had assumed command of the station, and, as soon as the British officers had left, the ordinary routine was carried on. Subadars became Majors and Captains. Jemadars became Lieutenants, and all with these ranks annexed the horses, carriages and property of their predecessors. The band played at mess every night, the musicians being rewarded with money taken from the Treasury. Guards were posted, and parades ordered as usual. Very soon, however, the regiment marched off towards Lucknow; joined mutineers of the Oudh Irregular Infantry and police; took part in the battle of Chinhut, and the siege of the Residency. After this nothing has been recorded of it.

### 23RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Chota Crawford Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1788. Late 2nd Battalion 4th B.N.I.  
“Allyghur,” “Delhi,” “Bhurtpoor.”  
1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Platt (thirty-seven years' service) in command. 1858  
—Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. Bishop in command.

This regiment, together with a wing of the 1st Light Cavalry, mutinied at Mhow on the evening of July 1st, and murdered their Commandant, Colonel Platt, who, confident in the loyalty of his men, had ridden to their lines to address them.

## 122 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Captain Fagan, the Adjutant who had accompanied him, was also killed. Captain Hungerford brought his battery from the Fort and opened fire upon the lines. The rebels hastily fled, abandoning all their property, and made their way to Indore. The subsequent history of the regiment, up to the battle of the Kari Nadi, is that of the so-called Mhow and Indore Brigade already given. In April, 1858, 200 men of the 23rd B.N.I. who had kept together, formed part of the force got together by the rebel Nawab of Banda in Bundelkhand. General Whitlock defeated it at Kabrai, and again completely at Banda on April 19th. The Nawab fled, and Banda, with treasure of much value, fell into British hands. I can find no mention of the regiment after this event in any record.

### 24TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Dabie Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1779. Late 2nd Battalion 8th  
B.N.I. "Laswarrie," "Moodkee,"  
"Ferozeshuhur," "Alliwal." 1857—  
Major Bush in command. 1858—Major  
J. T. Shakespeare in command.

This regiment was disarmed at Peshawar, with three others, on May 22nd, 1857. A detachment at Fort Mackeson was left undisturbed for a while, but it became known that the men belonging to it were plotting mischief of one kind and another (one of their schemes being to desert and bribe the Afridis to get them away safely across the Indus). Consequently they were adroitly disarmed by

Colonel H. B. Edwards on July 6th, and marched into Peshawar.

## 25TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Murriam Ka Paltan)

Raised 1795. Late 1st Battalion 20th B.N.I.  
“Java,” “Punjab,” “Chillianwala,”  
“Goojerat.” 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel  
Sewell (thirty-eight years’ service) in  
command. 1858 — Lieutenant-Colonel  
Sewell in command.

In the East India Register and army list for 1857 this regiment is shown as stationed at Thayet Mew, ordered to Benares. In the Bengal Quarterly Army List, corrected to 15th April, 1857, it is shown as stationed at Benares, but it could only have been on the way there. In the middle of May six Companies of the 25th were in Calcutta, camped on the esplanade between Coolie Bazaar and the Fort; armed, but without ammunition. Detachments of two other regiments, acting as guards in the Fort, had ten rounds per man. It was discovered that on May 17th the sepoys of the 25th had made proposals to the guards inside the Fort to the effect that the ammunition should be shared, and that all should rise the following night and capture the Fort. The plot was reported to the Town Major, and adequate measures were at once taken for the defence of the Fort. Several lists show the 25th B.N.I., or a wing of it, as having been disarmed, but I have not been able to find any mention of when and where this was done.

## 124 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

### 26TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Poel Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1797. Late 1st Battalion  
13th B.N.I. "Arracan," "Caubal,"  
"Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Subraon."  
1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor in com-  
mand. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor  
in command.

This regiment was one of the most distinguished in the service. It had done so well under Pollock that Lord Ellenborough had made it into a Light Infantry Regiment. It was known, however, that it had become disloyal, and it was disarmed with the 16th, 49th and 8th Cavalry, at Meean Meer on May 13th. The men of all these regiments remained fairly quiet until towards the end of July when it was generally understood that they meditated flight, and it was afterwards supposed that among themselves they had decided that one regiment should start first to draw off the European troops of the garrison in pursuit, leaving the field free for the other three to massacre and plunder. The 26th, having been for two days disposing of their property, were ready to move on the forenoon of July 30th, and had eaten their principal meal of the day. Hearing some commotion in the lines the Commanding Officer, Major Spencer (who had served twenty-five years in the regiment, and trusted the sepoy thoroughly) went, together with the European Quartermaster-Sergeant, to try and quell the disturbance. They were both murdered with hatchets and swords; so also were the Havildar Major, the Pay Havildar, and some others who had

attempted to intervene. Lieutenant Montague White of the same regiment had a narrow escape. He happened to be riding past the lines, and was enticed into them by some sepoys, who, with affectation of sorrow, told him that the Major had been nearly murdered by some Sikhs. He saw the bodies lying on the ground, and was in the act of dismounting when someone warned him to fly; he just escaped; a blow intended for him wounded his horse.

The whole regiment was now hopelessly compromised by the acts of a few. It fled precipitately; a violent dust storm sprang up and concealed the direction of its flight, and, by the time that the European troops had turned out, and were ready to act, the mutineers had entirely disappeared.

A pursuing force consisting of Sikh levies, under Captain Blagrove, Punjab Infantry, and Tewana Horse from Amritsar, was quickly organized, and started for the Harriki Ghat, the conjecture being that the fugitives had turned south to make for Delhi. At the same time proclamations were sent out in every direction, offering rewards for their capture or destruction.

They had not, however, gone south, but had hurriedly marched forty miles northwards, and, on the morning of the 31st July, were seen by some villagers on the left bank of the Ravi, with the evident intention of crossing that river into Jammu territory. The villagers managed to detain them whilst sending word to the Tehsildar of Ujnala, a stout Punjabi, who soon attacked them with his police and the villagers.

A hundred and fifty of the rebels were killed or



driven into the river and drowned; the remainder succeeded in getting across to an island, where they remained during the day, famished, footsore and soaked, awaiting their doom.

As soon as the news reached Amritsar, twenty-five miles off, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Cooper, started with about eighty or ninety mounted police for the scene of action, where he arrived at four o'clock in the afternoon. He had ordered a party of fifty Sikh levies to follow as a reserve. The wretched sepoys on the island, cowed and hopeless, made an abject surrender; forty or fifty of them plunged into the river and were carried away in the stream. The remainder, 282 in number, were bound, carried to the mainland in two rickety boats, and marched six miles to Ujnala, where they were lodged in the police station; sixty-six being confined in a round tower, or bastion, of the tehsil.

The question then was, how were these prisoners to be disposed of. The position in the Punjab was extremely critical; there was no means of conveying them to Lahore for formal trial and execution, which would have been their certain fate; for the sowars and police were far too few to guard them. Cooper, fully aware of his responsibility, resolved to put them all to death.

Early on the following morning they were led out in batches of ten and shot by the Sikh levies. To add to the horror, when the bastion, in which sixty-six had been confined for a few hours, was opened forty-five of them were found dead from exhaustion, heat and suffocation. The remaining twenty-one were shot as their comrades had been.

Subsequently, some forty stragglers were captured, and sent into Lahore, where they were tried and executed by being blown away from guns. Within forty-eight hours of their outbreak and murders, the 26th B.N.I. had been exterminated.

Cooper's action was upheld by John Lawrence and Montgomery, though he was afterwards fiercely assailed by some in Parliament. Had he hesitated to take the absolutely necessary course all the other disarmed regiments in the Punjab would have risen. The European troops available were not strong enough to control them, and a general insurrection would have followed. Unfortunately Cooper brought discredit upon himself by his exulting tone in describing his acts, both in his official report and subsequent book, "The Crisis in the Punjab." Lord Canning, in his minute on the services of civil officers, says of Mr. Cooper, "I hope he will be judged by his acts, done under stern necessity, rather than by the narrative of them."

#### 27TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Martdeel Ka Paltan)

Raised 1797. Late 2nd Battalion B.N.I.  
1857—Major T. Plumbe in command.  
1858—Lieutenant-Colonel T. Plumbe in command.

John Nicholson belonged to this regiment. In the East India Register and Army List of 1857 he is shown as a Captain in the regiment in civil employment with the army rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

The 27th was disarmed at Peshawar on the 22nd May, 1857, with the other native Infantry regiments stationed there. All the disarmed sepoy were allowed to remain in their own lines, but closely watched; for it was known that they were in a state of passive rebellion, and intriguing in all directions. At the end of August the authorities received information that arms were being purchased in large quantities, and that they were probably being secreted in the sepoy's lines. It was resolved to turn them out into the open and search their quarters. The 27th and the 51st were the regiments most suspected, and, on the 28th of August, they were ordered to move into tents on the plain beyond the parade grounds. Captain Cave brought down his Sikhs to superintend the move of the 27th, and to take possession of their huts. Whilst the 87th Royal Irish, under Colonel Murray, with a squadron of the Peshawar Light Horse, and two guns, were drawn up in their own adjacent barrack-square, in readiness for action in case of resistance.

The process of vacating the lines began early in the day; the regiments moved out to their camps, and fatigue parties moved to and fro carrying the property. The men of the 27th submitted sullenly but quietly. Not so did those of the 51st, of which more later. When everything had been removed the search was made, and a large quantity of arms of every description was found concealed in the huts, also cartridges and powder. The fate of their comrades of the 51st, who were all destroyed on the 28th and on the following day, struck terror into the sepoy of the 27th. Their whole bearing

became changed; thenceforth they were kept out in tents, doubly guarded and watched. It was impossible for them either to again obtain arms or to escape, and they knew that the slightest sign of mutiny would be followed by death.

## 28TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Stupper Ka Paltan)

Raised 1797. Late 1st Battalion 14th B.N.I.  
“Dehlee,” “Arracan.” 1857—Major  
Powell in command. 1858—Major Moir  
in command.

This regiment mutinied at Shahjehanpur on the morning of Sunday, May 31st, 1857. There were no European troops in the station. Most of the Christian population were in church at the time of the outbreak, as it was the hour of morning service. A small party of the mutineers armed with swords and knives rushed to the church with the intention of slaying all assembled within. The Chaplain met them at the door, and was at once attacked; one of his hands was severed by a cut with a tulwar. He escaped for a time, but was murdered by villagers on the evening of the same day. Mr. Ricketts, the Magistrate, rushed for the door, but was cut down and killed. A clerk named Le Maistre was also killed in the church. The doors were then shut, and the women were removed to the tower. The attacking sepoys went off to their lines to get muskets. Other fugitives made for the church, and all who were assembled there were protected by a body of a hundred loyal men, mostly Sikhs. The fugitives were assisted by them to

escape from the station. These unfortunate people, after enduring hardship and privation, eventually reached Mohamdi, one of the out-stations. Continuing from that place they were waylaid by a party of the Oudh Irregulars and some of the 41st B.N.I., and all were murdered.

The usual scene of tumult and murder went on in the lines and station of Shahjehanpur. Captain James, in temporary command of the regiment, was murdered, and so also was the surgeon, Dr. Bowling; bungalows were plundered and set on fire; the Treasury was looted; the jail broken open, and the criminals released. The 28th joined itself to the mutineers of Bareilly and Moradabad, and marched with them, under Bakht Khan, to Delhi, where they arrived on June 1st and 2nd. They were known as the Rohilkhand Brigade, and fought during the siege. When Delhi was taken the 28th went south, with the remaining mutineers, into Oudh. Malleeson states that men of the regiment formed part of the Nana's force defeated by Havelock at Bithoor, on August 16th. Delhi did not fall until a month later, but parties of the rebels had been clearing out of the city before it was assaulted.

There is little mention of the 28th in the accounts of the campaign in Oudh during 1858, but during the operations of the British under Douglas against Kunwar Singh, and in an action at Mannahar, on April 20th, when the rebels were utterly defeated, the colours of the regiment were, after the engagement, found wrapped round the dead body of a Subadar.

In December, 1858, the Etawah district was

threatened by the approach of a rebel force which included 200 of the 28th B.N.I., together with 1,400 mutinous Horse. Mr. A. O. Hume, in charge of the district, moved against them with 200 Infantry, 140 Cavalry, 4 guns, and a troop of the Meerut mounted police, under the command of Lieutenant Forbes. On the 8th of December the opposing forces met. A desperate fight ensued, and, in the end, both sides drew off in good order, but the rebels soon became fugitives, and melted away to the Nepal frontier, where they were finally disposed of.

There was a belief in the British camp before Delhi that a European renegade was serving with the mutineers and directing their Artillery. It was supposed that this man had formerly been in the Company's Artillery, and that, at the time of the mutiny, he was a Sergeant-Major of the 28th B.N.I., and had accompanied the regiment to Delhi. In one account he is described as a "Keranni" (half caste). Forbes Mitchell was very positive about the authenticity of the story, but there is no very definite proof.

#### 29TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Cullenjum Ka Paltan)

Raised 1797. Late 2nd Battalion 14th B.N.I.  
"Dehlee," "Punjab." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Graham (thirty-seven years' service) in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Graham in command.

At the time of the outbreak at Meerut this regiment was at Moradabad, with a detachment at

## 182 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Saharanpore. The sepoys belonging to it were loud in their protestations of loyalty, and behaved well up to the very end. The affair with a detachment of the 20th, on the 18th May, and the breaking open of the jail by a hundred bad characters of the 29th on the following day, has already been narrated. The remainder of the regiment remained loyal for the time being, expressed themselves as thoroughly disgusted by the conduct of the hundred insurgents, displayed alacrity in hunting them and the escaped criminals, and, in the days that followed, lost no opportunity of trying to redeem their character, and regain the confidence of their officers.

On May 21st a body of Mahomedan fanatics from Rampur appeared on the bank of the Ram Gunga, opposite Moradabad, and threatened the station. The Judge, Mr. Cracroft Wilson, with a Company of the 29th, a few sowars and two officers, attacked and dispersed them. On this occasion Mr. Wilson's life was saved by a sepoy of the 29th. The men of the regiment again behaved well in an expedition against two rebel Companies of Sappers and Miners from Roorkee, who were approaching the station, and also on other expeditions to put down disturbances in the district. It was hoped that the 29th would remain staunch, but events all around were too much for the men; their loyalty was gradually undermined, and, on June 2nd, when news came of the mutiny at Bareilly, they threw off all disguise. On the following day they seized the money in the Treasury, and, furious at what they considered the small amount of money found in it, threatened the

lives of Mr. Cracroft Wilson and Mr. Saunders, who were present at the time. The native officers persuaded them to desist, and on the same day the Europeans departed, the civilians to Meerut, and the officers with their families to Naini Tal, unmolested.

The men of the detachment at Saharanpur remained, to all outward appearance, loyal until July 11th, and even when two Companies of the 5th B.N.I., which had been sent from Umballa, mutinied on June 2nd. It was afterwards ascertained that the sepoy of the 29th, after the departure of those of the 5th, had intended to rise and plunder the Treasury, but were frustrated by the unexpected arrival at Moradabad of the Nusseeree Battalion of sepoy. During the night of July 11th these men deserted and presumably scattered. Nothing more was heard of them.

The headquarters of the regiment joined the mutineers from Bareilly and Shahjehanpore, and marched with them to Delhi. The subsequent history of the 29th B.N.I. is identical with that of the Rohilkhand Brigade.

### 30TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Macdoon Ka Paltan)

Raised 1798. Late 1st Battalion 15th B.N.I.  
"Dehlee," "Laswarrie," "Deeg," "Cabul"  
1842, "Alliwal," "Punjab," "Chillian-  
wala," "Goojerat." Embroidered star.  
Lake and Victory. 1857—Major Camp-  
bell in command. 1858—Lieutenant-  
Colonel Campbell in command.



## 134 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

In May, 1857, the garrison of Nasirabad consisted of the 15th B.N.I., the 30th B.N.I., No. 6 Light Field Battery of Native Artillery and the 1st Bombay Lancers. With the exception of the last named all mutinied on May 28th, and marched off to Delhi, where they arrived on June 18th. A detachment of the 30th was at Jeypore, under Lieutenant Swinhoe, where the majority mutinied, deserted on the night of June 2nd, and went off to join the other insurgents. The Jemadar of the detachment, one Havildar, one drummer and eighteen sepoy, remained faithful, and prevented the stores and ammunition from being carried away.

The subsequent history of the 30th B.N.I. is the same as that of the Nasirabad Brigade, of whom it is written that in the fight of June 19th it established a reputation which it held till the end of the war. No Corps of the rebel army kept up its discipline and organization so steadily throughout.

### 31ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Broon Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1798. "Dehlee," "Laswarrie,"  
"Deig," "Bhurtpore," "Khelat,"  
"Afghanistan," "Maharajpur," "Pun-  
jab," "Chillianwalla," "Gujerat."  
Embroidered star. Lake and Victory.  
1857—Major Dunmore in command.  
1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Bygrave in  
command.

In June, 1857, the Brigade of native troops at Saugor was commanded by General Sage, a

cautious officer, and determined that no massacre should occur at his station. The garrison consisted of sixty-eight men of European Artillery, 31st B.N.I., 42nd B.N.I. and 3rd Irregular Cavalry. On June 13th an appeal came from Lalitpur, a small station north of Jhansi (where the 6th Regiment Gwalior Contingent was quartered) for help, as mutiny was imminent.

General Sage sent off a Company of each of the three native regiments, and two 9 pounder guns, under Major Gaussen, but before this detachment had reached Lalitpur the mutiny had occurred, and the mutineers had established themselves in the Fort of Malthoni. Major Gaussen applied to Saugor for reinforcements which were at once sent to him. He stormed the Fort and took sixteen prisoners. Two days later his own men mutinied, released the prisoners, made them over to the Raja of Banpur, a local petty chieftain, dismissed their officers, and entered the Raja's service. Thus it appears that some of the 31st became mutineers, and men of the regiment formed part of 4,000 of the Nana's force collected at Bithoor, which was defeated by Havelock on August 16th. The bulk of the regiment remained loyal throughout. Major Gaussen and the other officers of the detachment returned to Saugor without their men.

Upon this open rebellion on the part of some of the native troops under his command, General Sage at once took action. As he afterwards wrote, he disagreed with the line of conduct which had been followed at so many stations; the officers, trusting their men against conviction, or rather what ought to have been conviction, and common sense;

## 186 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

sleeping in the lines; feigning confidence, until the men's plans had been matured, and the officers, with their families, murdered. He rapidly moved into the Fort the treasure and Artillery magazine, the women, children, and baggage of the Artillery Company; replaced the sepoy guard at the gate by a guard of Europeans; then moved in the ladies and the children; on the following day, June 30th, he moved in the small party of European Artillery, and all the European officers of the native regiments.

The 31st B.N.I. loudly complained of being deprived of their British officers, but the General remained firm. On July 1st the 3rd Irregulars and 42nd B.N.I. broke into open mutiny and plunder; the 31st held aloof and professed loyalty. On July 7th a sowar of the 3rd fired at a sepoy of the 31st, who, in return, shot him dead. A desperate fight between the two regiments followed, the 3rd Irregulars siding with the 42nd. It lasted all day and there were many casualties on both sides. On the following morning the rebels were chased from the station by the 31st, excepting forty who deserted to the 42nd, and sixty sowars of the 3rd Irregulars who remained faithful. The victors returned to Saugor bringing with them a large signal gun and six commissariat elephants which they had captured.

When the Bengal Army was reorganized the 31st became the 2nd B.N.I.

### 32ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Guthrie Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1798. Late 1st Battalion 16th  
B.N.I. "Bhurt pore." 1857—Lieuten-

ant-Colonel G. Burney (thirty-seven years' service) in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel G. Burney in command.

The sepoys at the headquarters of the regiment, whose conduct had been good, were disarmed at Barrackpore, with the other native regiments there, on June 14th, 1857. There were two detachments in the Southal district, and both mutinied. Two Companies at Deogarh revolted on October 9th, 1857; murdered their C.O., Lieutenant Cooper; broke open the jail and released the convicts. The headquarters of the 32nd displayed great indignation at the conduct of the Deogarh detachment, and demanded to be led against them. On the 17th the detachment at Rampur Haut followed suit, but failed to kill their officers because they could not find them. The mutiny of these detachments spoiled the record of the regiment, leaving only the 31st and the 73rd B.N.I. with honour untarnished.

On November 3rd, 1858, men of the 32nd were part of the 4,000 men garrisoning the Fort at Rampur, which was stormed, after a day's hard fighting, by Brigadier Weatherall.

Under the new organization the 32nd B.N.I. became the 3rd B.N.I.

### 33RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Hilliard Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1798. Late 2nd Battalion 16th B.N.I. "Laswarrie," "Bhurtpore," "Cabul," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon."

## 138 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

1857—Brevet Colonel Sandeman in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Sandeman in command.

This regiment, stationed at Hoshiarpur, was ordered to join Nicholson's movable column in June, 1857. It did so near Phillour; marched with the column to that station, and was there disarmed on June 25th, together with the 35th B.N.I. Colonel Sandeman was horrified when he received the order to disarm, and exclaimed, "What, disarm my regiment? I will answer with my life for the loyalty of every man." On the order being repeated he burst into tears. He had served with the 33rd for thirty-two years, and commanded it through the Sutlej campaign. Major Young-husband, C.O. of the 35th, who had been with his regiment thirty-three years, on receiving the order, murmured, "Thank God." Both regiments were in reality ripe for mutiny.

The 33rd became the 4th B.N.I.

### 34TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Bradshaw Ka Paltan)

Re-embodied 1846. Late 1st Battalion 17th B.N.I. 1857—Brevet Colonel Wheler (thirty-eight years' service) in command. 1858—Captain Dewaal in command.

This had for long been a bad regiment. It had been disbanded in 1844 for mutiny on the frontier, almost in sight of the Sikh Army, and its number erased from the army list. Two years later, to fill the gap, a new regiment was raised, but it was no better than the old one. In the early part of 1857

the headquarters, and seven Companies, were stationed at Barrackpore, and a detachment of three Companies at Chittagong.

The 34th Regiment was one of the very first to conspire against the State; without committing any overt act the men became sullen and insolent. On February 24th a small number of them, on escort duty, arrived at Berhampore from Barrackpore, and by tales of the design of the Government to destroy the sepoy's caste, and forcibly convert them to Christianity, so worked upon the feelings of the 19th B.N.I., stationed at Berhampore, that this regiment mutinied on the following day.

Again, and later, when the 19th were marched to Barrackpore to be disbanded, emissaries from the 34th met them one day's march from the station with proposals that the 19th should that night murder all their officers; march into Barrackpore, where the 2nd and 34th were prepared to join them; fire the bungalows; overwhelm the European force; secure the guns, and then march on to, and sack, Calcutta. The 19th, being in a repentant mood, refused to listen.

It was in the lines of the 34th that the first murderous assault of the mutiny on officers took place. On March 29th several of the sepoys were in a very excited state, and one of them, Mangal Pandey, inflamed by bang and armed with a loaded musket, was in front of the quarter guard (where a Jemadar and twenty men were on duty) calling on his comrades to rise. . The Adjutant, and Sergeant-Major of the regiment, attempted to secure him, but he succeeded in severely wounding both of them. Out of the entire regiment only one

## 140 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

man, a Mahomedan, came to their assistance, seized the mutineer round the body and held him. Some of the sepoy's of the guard struck the wounded officers with the butt-ends of their muskets as they lay on the ground, and one fired at them.

Mangal Pandey was hanged on April 8th in the presence of all the troops at Barrackpore. His name became a generic one, for all mutinous sepoy's were called "Pandies" after him. The Jemadar of the guard was also hanged, and, after a month of delay, on May 6th, the regiment was disbanded. The uniforms were stripped from the sepoy's' backs, and they were marched out of cantonments under an escort of Europeans. Some of them joined the army of the Nana, and were with the rebel force defeated at Bithoor by Havelock on August 16th.

When the three Companies stationed at Chittagong heard what had happened at Barrackpore they sent in a memorial saying that they had heard with extreme regret of the disgraceful conduct of Mangal Pandey and the guard; they knew well that the Government would not interfere with their religion, and that they would remain faithful for ever. They did remain faithful until November 18th, and then inexplicably broke out; plundered the Treasury, and released the prisoners in the jail; fired the magazine; burnt down their lines, and marched off towards Hill Tiparah, taking with them three elephants.

The Raja of Tiparah stopped them at Sankhola on December 2nd, and they turned off westward. Their progress through the hills becoming exceedingly difficult they descended in the direction

of Manipur, and, on December 15th, plundered a police station in British territory, thus betraying their whereabouts. The Sylhet Light Infantry under Major Byng were soon in pursuit, and overtook the rebels at Latu on the 18th. An engagement followed which lasted three hours. Major Byng was unfortunately killed, but the mutineers, totally defeated, took refuge in the jungles between Latu and Manipur. Their next move was into Manipur, where they were joined by one of the Manipur princes with some followers, and hoped to make a stand, but on the 12th of January the Sylhet regiment again attacked and drove them into the jungle. Again, ten days later, they were attacked, and put to flight, and again eight days afterwards. These rebels were now finished; they had lost 206 men killed, and the residue were shut up in hilly country with the passes blocked. There most of them perished.

## 35TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Noke Ka Paltan)

Raised 1798. "Allygarh," "Dehlee,"  
"Bhurtpore," "Afghanistan," "Ghaznee,"  
"Jellalabad," "Cabul," 1842. A mural  
crown inscribed Jellalabad. Honorary  
colour "Lake and Victory." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Seaton in command,  
Major Younghusband, second in command.  
1858—Major Younghusband in command.

This regiment had a fine record, but in May, 1857, was known to be disaffected. It was then



## 142 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

stationed at Sealkot. Two of its sepoy were convicted of using seditious language, and endeavouring to incite their comrades to mutiny; they were also found with loaded muskets, and, on June 9th, were executed at Lahore by being blown away from guns. Notwithstanding the suspicion with which the 35th was regarded, Nicholson, to the general surprise, chose it to form part of his movable column. His object was soon revealed; it was to disarm it on the march to Delhi, and this was done at Phillour on June 25th.

### 36TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Markum Ka Paltan)

Raised 1800. Late 1st Battalion 18th B.N.I.  
"Seringapatam," "Bhurtpore," "Aliwal,"  
"Punjab," "Chillianwalla," "Gujerat."  
1857 — Brevet Colonel Flemyng in  
command, Major Faddy, second in com-  
mand. 1858—Major Faddy in command.

In the early part of 1857 the 36th B.N.I. was stationed at Jalandhar, together with the 61st B.N.I. and the 6th Light Cavalry. At Umballa, at this time, was a dépôt for instruction in musketry, and attached to it was a detail from the 36th of non-commissioned officers and men. The regiment itself, whilst moving from Meerut to Jalandhar, formed part of the escort of the C. in C., General Anson, who arrived at Umballa in the middle of March.

Two of the non-commissioned officers of the 36th attached to the Musketry Instruction Dépôt hurried out to the camping-ground of their regiment to

greet their friends, when, to their horror, they were taunted by a Subadar with having used greased cartridges. Though they had not done so, they were treated as outcasts, and denied a share in lota and hookah. In despair the two men hurried back to the depôt, spread the news among all the detachments from other regiments there, and laid their grievance before the officer commanding the depôt, Captain Martineau. He at once recognized the gravity of the situation, very strongly represented it to the military authorities, and begged that an official investigation might be made. Unfortunately his representations were to a great extent disregarded; no official investigation was made, and the only result was the suspension of the musketry instruction until the decision of the C. in C. should be made known.

On April 16th it was made known, and with disastrous results. The Subadar who had taunted the two non-commissioned officers was told that his conduct had been unbecoming and unsoldierly, and the two insulted men were censured severely. The sepoys were compelled to use the cartridges, and incendiary fires followed nightly.

The warnings had been disregarded. The 36th went on to Jalandhar in a condition of smouldering mutiny, and on the night of June 7th revolted, with the other two native regiments. A few of the men remained faithful, and saved the lives of their officers, also the regimental treasure-chest. The mutineers quickly marched out of the station to Phillour, where they collected the 3rd B.N.I., who were apparently waiting for them, and continued their march towards Loodianah, *en route* for Delhi.

There was in Jalandhar a strong force of European troops consisting of the 8th Queens and a Battery of Artillery, but the officer commanding the station, General Johnstone, was incompetent and irresolute. It was three hours before he made up his mind to pursue, and four before he started. By that time the mutineers had already left Phillour; the pursuit was dilatory and interrupted by frequent halts. Eventually the pursuing force bivouacked at Phillour without having nearly overtaken the enemy. The rebels were not altogether unopposed; they had to cross the River Sutlej, and, whilst doing so were attacked by the Deputy Commissioner of Ludihana, Mr. Ricketts, a gallant, young civilian, who had collected a small force consisting of three Companies of the 4th Sikhs, under Lieutenant Williams, two guns (one of which was lost through the horses taking fright and bolting) and a contingent of Nabha troops, who fled at the very beginning of the fight.

Ricketts and Williams reached the river at 10 p.m., fought the mutineers for two hours, disputing the passage of the river, and hoping all the time for the arrival of a pursuing force from Jalandhar. Ammunition being exhausted, and Williams desperately wounded, he was compelled to withdraw, having checked the enemy and inflicted great loss upon them.

The four mutinous regiments went on to Ludhiana, occupied the Fort and city for a day, plundered and destroyed, then, hearing that General Johnstone had shown at length some sign of advancing, proceeded on their way to Delhi.

The 36th fought throughout the siege of Delhi, but nothing more is recorded of them as a regiment.

The loyal remnants helped to form the 17th B.N.I.

### 37TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised in 1800. Late 2nd Battalion. 18th B.N.I. "Seringapatam," "Bhurtpore," "Afghanistan," "Punjab." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Spottiswoode in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Spottiswoode in command.

In May, 1857, the 37th were at Benares with the Ludhiana Regiment of Sikhs and the 13th Regiment of Irregular Cavalry; the only European troops were half a Company of Artillery, afterwards reinforced by 150 men of Her Majesty's 10th Foot, and 60 of the Madras Fusiliers, under Colonel Neill.

On June 4th, as soon as the news of the mutiny at Azimgarh reached Benares, it was decided to disarm the 34th, and on the following morning. Neill, however, insisted on its being done that same evening, and a parade was ordered for 5 o'clock. At that hour Colonel Spottiswoode, and the other officers of the regiment, turned out the men, and ordered them to lodge their muskets in the bells of arms. Most of them had obeyed, when, seeing the European Infantry and Artillery approaching, they suddenly became panic-stricken, rushed to the bells of arms, seized their muskets, and opened fire on their own officers, and on the European troops. "Going about the work before them in a

## 146 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

systematic professional manner they sent some picked men and good marksmen to the front as skirmishers, who, kneeling down, whilst others handed loaded muskets to them, fired deliberately on the Europeans from a distance of from eighty to a hundred yards."

The 10th Madras Fusiliers and the guns quickly opened fire; the rebels were driven back into their own lines; out of them, and out of the station. They fled to Jaunpur, forty miles distant, where the Ludhiana Sikhs joined them in rebellion.

They went on into Oudh, and some to Delhi. Some of their arms, accoutrements, and the colours of the regiment, were left in the lines, and collected by Neill on the following morning.

Some of the 37th were with the 17th in camp at Begamgunj, on the Gogra, when the fugitives from Fyzabad were murdered by them on June 9th.

Lord Roberts relates that when the Palace at Delhi was stormed a few fanatics held out; one of them, a Mahomedan sepoy in the uniform of a Grenadier of the 37th B.N.I., stood quietly, about thirty yards up the passage, with his musket on his hip. As our men advanced he slowly raised his weapon and fired, sending the bullet through Captain McQueen's helmet. The brave fellow then advanced at the charge, and was, of course, shot down.

### 38TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Balanteer Titteelee Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1800. Late 1st Battalion 19th B.N.I. "Seringapatam," "Candahar,"

“ Ghuznee,” “ Cabul,” 1842. 1857—  
Major Knyvett in command. 1858—  
Major Knyvett in command.

This regiment successfully defied Lord Dalhousie by refusing to cross the sea from Calcutta to Arrakan. The sepoy were quite respectful but absolutely firm. It was evident that their minds were filled with doubt, and that they were suspicious of a design to destroy their caste. In May, 1857, it formed part of the garrison of Delhi, and, on the day that the Meerut mutineers entered it, furnished the guards in the city, at the Palace, the main guard near the Cashmere Gate, and the Treasury. The men on duty at the Palace at once fraternized with the sowars of the 3rd Light Cavalry, and joined them in murder and plunder. Those, fifty in number, at the Cashmere Gate main guard, though equally mutinous, remained quiet until later in the day.

In the cantonment beyond the Ridge a Brigade parade had been held at sunrise, at which the sentence of death on Jemadar Ishwari Pershad, at Barrackpore, had been read. A murmur of disapprobation, lasting only a few seconds, had then run through the ranks. There was at that time no further demonstration, though it is certain that the sepoy at Delhi had been informed of the intention of those at Meerut, and that they were waiting their arrival.

As soon as news of the near approach of the 3rd Light Cavalry reached Brigadier-General Graves he sent off the 54th B.N.I., with two guns of De Teissier's Battery, to the city; but no sooner

had they passed through the Cashmere Gate than some sowars of the 3rd galloped up and shot all the officers of the 54th present, their men looking on with approval. The sepoys of the 38th at the main guard, were ordered, by the officer in command, to fire on the mutineers; they not only refused to obey, but jeered at and insulted him. The 54th and native Artillerymen of the two guns joined the mutineers inside the city.

Tidings of this disaster soon reached the cantonment. General Graves assembled the 38th and 74th; the call was obeyed slowly and reluctantly; many of the men had already deserted, but the General called for volunteers to march to the city. The whole of the 74th on parade, only 240 in number, came forward, but not a man of the 38th moved. The men of the 74th, with two more of the guns, were sent off to the Cashmere Gate; the ladies and children were collected in the Flagstaff Tower; the 38th and the two remaining guns were posted on the Ridge, and some pickets of the 38th were thrown out between the cantonment and the city. About 3 p.m. the 74th, and the two guns with them, were recalled to the cantonment. The two guns were intercepted by one of the pickets of the 38th and brought back to the city. As soon as the few remaining of the 74th had marched out of the Cashmere Gate the men of the 38th at the main guard closed it, and started to shoot down the remaining British officers there.

On the Ridge the sepoys of the 38th became more and more mutinous; refused to lift a hand against the rebels, and showed that they intended to prevent the guns being used. At sunset the

Brigadier decided to abandon the Ridge, and, with the remaining British officers, women and children, to make, some for Meerut, others for Kurnaul. The sepoys were defiant and insolent, but committed no violence, and even started off with the fugitives, announcing their intention to accompany the General. They were soon dropped off, however, and stayed in their own lines.

Afterwards the 38th were with the force that opposed the advance of General Wilson at the Hindun, on May 31st, where they lost heavily, and fought again at Badli ke Serai on June 8th. Here they were so badly cut up that they never kept in one body again.

### 39TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Balanteer Burrul Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1800. Late 2nd Battalion 19th B.N.I. "Seringapatam," "Punniar," "Maharajpur." Embroidered star. 1857—Brevet Colonel Macdonald in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Macdonald in command.

This regiment was disarmed at Dehra Ismail Khan. On July 20th, 1857, it was discovered that a number of Malwa Sikhs at that station belonging to the 18th Punjab Infantry had plotted to rise, murder the officers, seize the Fort, re-equip the 39th from the magazine and stores, raise the regiments at Dera Ghazi Khan and Multan, and march on Delhi. The ringleaders were secured, and the 39th was marched to Sealkote, where it could be better kept under observation. The



## 150 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

sepoys marched very quietly after giving up their side arms. They were subsequently disbanded with the other disarmed regiments in the Punjab.

### 40TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Hamilteen Ka Paltan)

Raised 1820. Late 2nd Battalion 20th B.N.I.  
"Java," "Ava," "Arracan," "Pegu."  
1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberledge  
in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel  
Cumberledge in command.

The 40th B.N.I. mutinied at Dinapur on July 25th, 1857, together with the 7th and 8th B.N.I. The three kept together, and were known as the Dinapur Brigade; they called themselves "The Fighting Regiments." The subsequent history of the 40th is the same as that of the 7th and 8th Regiments already given, with this variation that some of them made their way into Central India, and fought against us in the campaign of 1858. Some sepoy of the regiment were with Ajit Singh's band of 600, surprised and cut up by Robertson of the 25th B.N.I. at Bijapur, near Goona, on September 4th. Three-fourths of Ajit Singh's men were killed.

### 41ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Doobyee Kee Daheena Paltan)

Raised 1803. Late 1st Battalion 21st B.N.I.  
"Bhurtpore," "Sobraon." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Bird in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Tylee in command.

The 41st was one of the most blood-thirsty of all the regiments that mutinied. It was stationed at Sitapur with the 9th and 10th Oudh Irregular Infantry, and the 2nd Oudh Military Police, who all rose in mutiny on June 3rd, 1857.

The 41st led off. Half the regiment was stationed in the city, and at once plundered the Treasury; the other half were in the cantonment. The usual programme was followed; the bungalows and public buildings were set on fire, the C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel Birch, and other officers, including Mr. Christian, the Commissioner, were murdered, and also many women and children. A considerable number of Europeans escaped, and were escorted by a few of the 41st who remained loyal, and some troopers to Lucknow.

Intelligence having reached Sitapur of the escape of a number of Europeans from Shahjehanpore a party of the 41st was sent by the Subadar, who had assumed command, to intercept and bring them to Sitapur. This party came up with the unfortunate fugitives at Mohammerah, four miles from Mohamdee, and, with some sepoy of the Oudh Irregular Force, murdered them all but one, Captain Orr, who had managed to escape.

The 41st did not keep together as a complete regiment; some scattered to their homes, others went off to Delhi; the majority remained in Oudh.

The first move of the bulk of the regiment was to the bank of the Ganges opposite Fattehgarh, where the 10th B.N.I. had mutinied, and the Europeans had retired into the Fort. On arrival the sepoy of the 41st sent messages to those of the 10th urging them to murder their officers and seize the

treasure. The men of the 10th had, however, spared their officers, and had already divided the treasure among themselves; very many of them made off to their homes. The Bridge-of-boats had been broken up, but the sepoy of the 41st found means to cross the river and set upon those remaining of the 10th. A fight ensued and many lives were lost. In the end the survivors of the 10th joined the 41st, who, on June 25th, assaulted the Fort.

The garrison held out bravely for nine days, repulsing continued attacks. At last the position became untenable and it was resolved to evacuate the Fort, and escape in the three large boats which were available. The attempt at escape was made on the night of July 3rd. The fugitives were followed; most of them killed; some were made prisoners. The latter were taken back to Fattegarh and made over to the Nawab of Farakabad, by whom they were murdered, a fortnight later, under most atrocious circumstances, the men of the 41st taking an active part in the crime. One of the boats succeeded in reaching Cawnpore, but the place was by then in the hands of the Nana, and by his orders the survivors of the European population of Fattegarh were all cruelly murdered.

On August 11th some of the 41st were with the Nana's army at Bithoor, and probably took part in the battle there on the 16th. Some also were with the besiegers of the Lucknow Residency. It is recorded by Captain Anderson that "On the 6th of October a lot of new rebels joined the enemy. A guard of the 41st B.N.I., under a Havildar, came quietly into a room close where our guards were;

they piled arms and were taking it very comfortably, whereupon the Europeans rushed upon them and killed every one. They had no idea that our outpost was so close; in fact the room was our guard-room, that had only just been taken, and the sepoy fancied it was, as usual, occupied by their own side."

In the action of the Kali Nadi, near Fattehgarh, fought on the 2nd January, 1858, by the troops under the command of Sir Colin Campbell against the rebel troops of the Nawab of Farrakhabad, those of the 41st B.N.I. who had still kept together were conspicuous. They were still dressed in their scarlet British tunics, with dhoties instead of trousers, and native shoes. In the course of the action the 41st B.N.I. formed square to resist the charge of the 9th Lancers. The square was broken at the second charge, and in less than five minutes the 41st Regiment was wiped out of the ranks of the mutineers.

#### 42ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Balunteer Jansin Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1803. Late 2nd Battalion 21st B.N.I. "Arracan," "Afghanistan," "Candahar," "Ghuznee," "Cabul," 1842, "Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Dalyell in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Campbell in command.

This regiment mutinied at Saugor on July 1st, 1857, some of its sepoy having previously deserted and entered the service of the Raja of Banpur.

## 154 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

The usual plundering followed the outbreak, but the officers were not murdered because, by General Sage's orders, they had previously removed themselves, and their families, to the Fort. On July 7th the 31st B.N.I., who remained loyal, and the 42nd quarrelled and fought. The 42nd had the worst of it, and were driven out of the station; fifty of them remained loyal. From Saugor the regiment marched to Bithoor. On July 31st they passed within ten miles of the British camp at Cawnpore, killed a Thanadar and broke down a bridge. By August 2nd they were encamped close to Bithoor, where they were gradually joined by other rebels, until a force of 4,000 had collected. It was attacked by Havelock, and, after a hard fight, completely defeated. The men of the 42nd fought with great bravery at this battle of Bithoor, and were badly cut up; they actually crossed bayonets with the Madras Fusiliers.

The regiment was afterwards reconstituted and became the 5th B.N.I.

### 43RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Kyne Ke Daheena Paltan)

Raised in 1803. Late 1st Battalion 22nd B.N.I. "Afghanistan," "Candahar," "Ghuznee," "Cabul," 1842, "Maharajpore," "Sobraon." 1857—Major Matthews in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Hannah in command.

The 43rd had a fine record of service. It was one of Nott's "beautiful regiments" at Candahar. On June 14th it was disarmed at Barrackpore

together with the 2nd Grenadiers, the 34th and the 70th. Within ten days after the disarming 133 men of these regiments had deserted, most of them from the 43rd.

This regiment became the 6th B.N.I.

#### 44TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Kyne Ke Bacan Paltan)

Raised in 1803. Late 2nd Battalion 22nd B.N.I. "Deig," "Ferozeshuhur." 1857—Brevet Colonel Haldane in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Haldane in command.

In May, 1857, this regiment was at Agra, with a Company at Muttra; on the 30th of the month another Company, with one of the 67th, was sent to Muttra to escort the treasure from that station to Agra. They all mutinied, shot Lieutenant Boulton dead, and marched off to Delhi with the money. On the following morning both regiments were disarmed at Agra. The men of the 44th hesitated when the order was given to pile arms, and looked disposed to resist, but were overawed by the presence of the European troops and guns. They were marched back from the parade to their lines and there given leave to disperse to their homes. Many went off to Delhi; those on duty at Government House taking their arms with them.

#### 45TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Murreeroo Ke Daheena Paltan)

Raised 1803. Late 1st Battalion 23rd B.N.I. "Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Punjab,"

“Chillianwalla,” “Goojerat.” 1857—  
Lieutenant-Colonel Liptrap in command.  
1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Liptrap in com-  
mand.

The news of the revolt at Meerut reached Ferozepore, the largest arsenal in Upper India, on May 12th, 1857. The troops stationed there were two Companies of Foot Artillery, and a Light Battery. Her Majesty's 61st Regiment, the 10th Light Cavalry, the 45th, and 57th B.N.I. The magazine was in the hands of a guard of the 57th. On the 13th 100 men of the 61st were sent into the entrenched magazine, and an attempt was made to separate the two native Infantry regiments by marching them to camping grounds in opposite directions. The 45th started quietly enough, but when it came near the magazine most of the sepoys broke away, loaded their muskets, and made a dash for the magazine. The minority, about 150 men, marched with the C.O. to their camping ground. The assailants of the magazine quickly crossed the surrounding entrenchment, which was in a dilapidated condition and filled with rubbish. They then attempted to scale the wall, aided with ladders by the men of the 57th still within the magazine; the ladders must have been provided beforehand. The detachment of the 61st soon drove off the mutineers, disarmed the sepoys of the 57th in the magazine, and turned them out.

The magazine was then safe, but to make doubly sure three more Companies of the 61st were ordered into it. The European troops were too few to guard both magazine and cantonment, and, during the night, two or three hundred sepoys of the 45th

looted and destroyed the mess house of the 61st, and the officers' bungalows were all set on fire.

On the morning of the 14th it was known that the two native regiments intended seizing the regimental magazines; they were consequently blown up. This convinced the mutinous men of the 45th that it was time for flight. They seized their arms and colours, and marched off in the direction of Farid Kot. About 150 remained faithful, and laid down their arms at the barracks of the 61st.

The fugitive mutineers were pursued for twelve miles by two squadrons of the 10th Light Cavalry, under Majors Beatson and Harvey, accompanied by Major Marsden, the Deputy Commissioner, an energetic and efficient officer. The rebels broke, and scattered in all directions, throwing away their arms and colours. The Cavalry brought in some as prisoners; numbers were given up by the villagers; several were seized in the Patiala territory and imprisoned; but a certain number succeeded in reaching Delhi.

The last item that is recorded of the regiment is the account of a general parade held at Ferozepore for the execution of twenty-four sepoy's belonging to it. Twelve of them offered to turn Queen's evidence and give information; they were reprieved; of the remainder two were hanged, and ten blown away from guns.

#### 46TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Marrerroo Ke Becan Paltan)

Raised 1803. Late 2nd Battalion 23rd B.N.I.  
"Assam," "Punjab," "Chillianwalla,"



“Gujerat.” 1857 — Brevet Colonel Farquharson in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Farquharson in command.

Sialkote had, at the end of May, 1857, been denuded of all British troops which were required for Nicholson's movable column, and there remained in the station a wing of the 9th Light Cavalry, and the 46th B.N.I.; in all nearly a thousand native soldiers, who remained quiet for six weeks. Then, seeing that they would be shortly disarmed, they revolted on the morning of July 9th. The rising had been preconcerted, and planned even to the placing of mounted pickets on all roads by which Europeans might escape, especially on that leading to the Fort, which was to have been the place of refuge. Many were killed in their flight to it, but a large number succeeded in reaching its shelter. The Brigadier-General Brind, while leisurely walking to the Fort, was shot in the back by a trooper of the 9th. He was assisted to the Fort by other officers, but died during the night. The officers of the 46th, on the parade ground of the regiment, were warned and protected by some of the better disposed of their men, the road to the Fort being by that time closed to them. They rode off to Gujranwala, from thirty to forty miles distant, through the fierce heat of a July day, and reached that place in the evening, having been kindly treated and refreshed by villagers on the way. Some sick Artillerymen had been left behind in hospital when the British troops had been withdrawn, with a few to look after them. These established themselves in the Dead House; the

mutineers did not venture to attack them, and they reached the Fort on the following day.

After a day of murder, pillage and destruction, and having loaded all the vehicles and camels they could collect with plunder, the rebels, at nightfall, marched off in the direction of Hoshiarpur, and halted only ten miles off. This delay was the cause of their destruction. They were overtaken at Trimu Ghat, on the Ravi, by Nicholson, with his movable column, which had made a forced march from Amritsar on the night of the 10th July and the day of the 11th. The Europeans had been brought along on 200 Ekhas, and on grass cutters' ponies, and the Sikh Infantry on the horses of the disarmed wing of the 9th belonging to the column.

See *ante*, 9th Light Cavalry, page 68, a condensed account of the affair at Trimu Ghat. Not a man of the 46th B.N.I. escaped from it to reach Delhi.

#### 47TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Craum Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 1st Battalion 24th B.N.I. "Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Aliwal," "Sobraon." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Pott in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Pott in command.

This regiment was partially disarmed at Mirzapur; it remained loyal, and became the 7th B.N.I.

The 47th arrived at Mirzapur early in June, 1857, in a very uncertain condition. Lieutenant-

## 160 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Colonel David Pott did not in the least entertain a blind belief in the loyalty of his men, a belief held by too many Commanding Officers with disastrous results. He knew them better. By intercepting the mail bags, and by having a thorough knowledge of Hindustani, he read many treasonable letters addressed to certain men, inciting them to become leaders of mutiny. On June 6th, 1857, he sent off the majority of his men on furlough, took from the magazine all the spare cartridges, and nipples of spare muskets, and threw them into the river.

It was said by an officer of the regiment, at that time a subaltern and who afterwards commanded the 7th B.N.I., that David Pott tried by summary court martial, and hanged, some sepoy who, by the intercepted letters, were convicted of an intention to mutiny. I have not been able to discover mention of this episode in any of the histories or published official papers. It is, however, certain that, by his strong personality, he overawed the regiment. The men remained loyal, and behaved well when acting against insurgent villagers, and keeping order in the district. Following Colonel Pott's very strongly worded advice the men of the 47th became desirous to offer their services for China. He reported to the C. in C. to this effect on September 9th, 1857, and the regiment was sent there shortly afterwards.

48TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Mutees Ka Paltan)

Raised 1804. Late 2nd Battalion 24th B.N.I.

“Afghanistan,” “Ghaznee,” “Moodkee,”  
“Ferozeshuhur,” “Aliwal.” 1857—  
Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer in command.  
1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer in com-  
mand.

The majority of this regiment mutinied at Lucknow at 9 a.m., on May 30th, 1857; it had long been known as the most disaffected in the garrison. At the same time most of the 13th B.N.I., more than half of the 71st B.N.I., the 7th Light Cavalry, and Oudh Irregulars, mutinied. Two days previously the pension paymaster at Lucknow, proceeding to Futtegarh to disburse pensions there, was accompanied by a small force intended as a demonstration. It was composed of two Companies of the 48th, under Major Burmester and Lieutenant Farquharson, with a squadron of the 7th Light Horse, under Captain Staples, with two subalterns, Lieutenants Boulton and Martin. While they were on the road news, first of the mutiny at Lucknow, and then of that at Cawnpore, reached this detachment. The sepoys and sowars murdered their officers, and joined the Nana.

Lieutenant Boulton alone managed to escape to the entrenchment at Cawnpore, where he was soon afterwards killed. The mutineers at Lucknow were driven off on the morning following the outbreak, and fled in the direction of Seetapore, whence they returned with the rebel force that laid siege to the Residency.

The loyal remnant of the 48th fought bravely

## 162 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

throughout the siege. For the appreciation of their conduct see *ante*, 13th B.N.I., page 104.

### 49TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Rayle Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 1st Battalion 25th B.N.I. "Arracan," "Punjab," "Mooltan." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Jones (thirty-nine years' service) in command. 1858—Major Smith in command.

This regiment was disarmed at Meean Meer, with the 16th and 26th, on May 13th, 1857, and eventually disbanded.

### 50TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Christeen Ka Paltan)

Raised 1840. Late 2nd Battalion 25th B.N.I. "Punniar," "Punjab." 1857—Major Hampton in command. 1858—Major Hampton in command.

The 50th was stationed at Nagode, and remained faithful until the month of September, 1857. The mutiny of the 52nd B.N.I. at Jabbulpore seems to have set them off. A report reached Nagode that the rebel, Kunwar Singh, was marching on the station; the 50th was ordered out to oppose him, and started with apparent alacrity. It had only just cleared the station when a voice from the ranks gave the order to halt; the sepoys halted, and informed their officers that they were no longer wanted, and that they had better go.

A few faithful men escorted the officers and their families to Mirzapore; the regiment returned to Nagode to plunder and burn. These rebels, after ravaging the country round, joined the army which had been collected by the Nawab of Banda; 850 of them formed part of his force of 7,000 completely defeated by General Whitlock at Banda, on April 19th, 1858.

The Nawab fled from Bundelkhand and joined Tantia Topi; the residue of the 50th accompanied him, and are mentioned as having, on September 4th, 1858, formed part of Ajhit Singh's band of rebels, which was surprised and routed by Robertson of the 25th B.N.I., at Bijapur, on the bank of the Parbati. Three-fourths of the rebels were killed, and between four or five hundred bodies were counted on the banks of the river. Nothing more was heard of the 50th.

#### 51ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Duberne Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 1st Battalion 26th B.N.I. "Punnar," "Punjab," "Mooltan," "Gujerat." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Cooper in command. 1858—Captain Wallace in command.

The 51st was disarmed at Peshawar on May 22nd, 1857, together with the 24th, 27th and 5th Light Cavalry. Though disarmed the sepoys were by no means quiescent, and desertions soon commenced. This could not be permitted, and the police were put on the track of the deserters; rewards were offered for their apprehension, and the mountain

tribes were encouraged to bring them in, which they willingly did after despoiling the wretched fugitives. The culprits were tried by court martial and executed.

The desertions were principally from the 51st, and, on May 29th, the Subadar Major of the regiment was hanged in the presence of the assembled troops. The Afridis and Mohmunds continued to bring in runaways, and soon desertion ceased.

As related *ante* (27th B.N.I., page 128), it was discovered that the sepoys were secretly rearming themselves, and, on August 28th, a search of their lines was made. The sepoys of the 51st resisted; suddenly the whole regiment rose; made a dash at the officers, Captain Bartlett, Lieutenant Roberts, and Ensign Platt, who were superintending the search, and tried to kill them. They then bolted back to their lines, and to a field close by, in which it was afterwards found quantities of arms had been buried. The European troops, and the 18th Punjab Infantry, who were in readiness, were at once upon them; fifty fell at the first volley, and numbers were bayoneted in the lines. Some attempted to seize the arms and ammunition of the Peshawar Light Horse, and were repulsed with heavy loss; others made for the lines of the 18th, where they were made prisoners; others attempted to fly through the Sudder Bazaar, and were cut up by the 70th and 27th Her Majesty's Regiments.

Very soon the main body were in full flight towards Jumrood, hotly pursued; they were annihilated. Those captured were tried by drum-head court martial and executed on the same, and

on the following, day. "Of the 870 men who, on the morning of the 28th, composed the 51st B.N.I., within eight and forty hours, not the odd 70 survived, and a few days after it was reported that only 19 famished fugitives lingered on in the neighbouring hills." Four or five got to Khuddum in the Khyber, where the Hukikel said they would let them go to Cabul as Mussulmans, but not as Hindus; so they were converted on the spot.

#### 52ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Hindree Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 2nd Battalion 26th B.N.I. "Punjab," "Mooltan," "Gujerat." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Jamieson in command. 1858 — Lieutenant-Colonel Jamieson in command.

This regiment, in May, 1857, was stationed at Jubulpore, and long before it broke out was known to be on the verge of mutiny. On June 16th one of the sepoy's attempted to bayonet the Adjutant, but was quickly overpowered. He was judged to be insane, and sent off under escort to Benares. On July 18th the Residency was fortified, and those women and children who had not been sent away to Seoni and Narsingpur were brought into it.

The news of the approach of the Kampti Column caused an improvement in the demeanour of the sepoy's of the 52nd for a time, and they were employed in putting down disturbances in the district. The movable column, consisting of Madras troops and a battery of Artillery, arrived at Jubulpore on August 2nd, but remained there only



a few days, then proceeded to fulfil its object, that of restoring order in the district; two Companies of the 52nd were attached to it.

During the absence of the column it was discovered that an old Raja of the Gond family, named Shamkar Shah, his son, and some adherents, were engaged in a conspiracy to incite the 52nd to mutiny and murder all the Europeans in the place. The evidence was clear and the Raja and his son were blown from guns on September 18th, in the presence of the 52nd on parade.

That same night the regiment quietly deserted *en masse*, taking with them only their arms, and the ammunition in their pouches. They marched without a halt to Patun where a detachment under Lieutenant MacGregor was stationed, and were joined by this detachment, taking MacGregor with them. They then proceeded to Katanji, where there was another detachment which they took up, and went on to Salimabad, thirty miles on the Mirzapore road. Here was stationed a third detachment under Lieutenants Barton and Cockburn. These two officers were sent away by the men before the arrival of the regiment at the post, and reached Jubulpore in safety.

From Patun the sepoys had written a letter to their Colonel announcing their intention to proceed to Delhi, and offering to release MacGregor in exchange for the Havildar Major and a few loyal sepoys, who were to be sent to them under a guard of police. If these men were not handed over to them they would not kill MacGregor, but would take him bound to Delhi. It was impossible to save even a British officer's life, and to comply

with such terms would have meant that the Havildar Major and other loyal men would have been at once massacred. Major Eskine, the commissioner, offered 8,000 rupees for the release of MacGregor. It was not accepted, and the sepoy afterwards murdered him at Katanji.

On hearing of the mutiny the Kampti movable column marched at once against the 52nd, which had by that time been joined by 1,000 Matchlock men; came up with, and defeated it, at a gorge leading to Katanji. The rebels left 125 dead on the field, and in the pursuit; the remainder escaped into thick jungle, and the column marched on to Jubulpore.

The remnant of the 52nd, numbering about 530 men, after their defeat, ravaged the surrounding country, joined by the adherents of various rebel petty chiefs. They plundered Damoh; released the prisoners there, and then established themselves in the very strong Fort of Garhakot, twenty-five miles east of Saugor, from whence they constantly sallied to plunder and destroy.

On February 12th this Fort was taken by Sir Hugh Rose; its garrison, having put up a fight by day, fled by night. The 52nd now joined the army of the Peshwa, as the rebels under Tantia Topi called themselves, and, together with four or five thousand Bundelas, attempted to hold the pass of Madhanpur against Sir Hugh Rose, when he advanced against Jhansi from Saugor. They were, on March 3rd, 1858, defeated and driven out after a hard fight. The position was an exceedingly strong one, and the rebels made a determined defence, but fled from a charge of

## 168 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Infantry into the town of Madanpur, whence they were chased into the jungles.

The 52nd B.N.I. came to an end on May 7th, 1858, at the battle of Kunch, where it covered the retreat of the rebels in an orderly and admirable manner, during which it was practically annihilated. It was never heard of again.

### 53RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Castor Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 1st Battalion 27th Regiment B.N.I. "Caubul" 1842, "Punjab." 1857—Major Hillersdon in command. 1858—Captain Edgell in command.

The native regiments at Cawnpore in May, 1857, were the 2nd Light Cavalry, and the 1st, 53rd and 56th B.N.I. The Cavalry and the 1st B.N.I. broke into mutiny on the night of June 4th; the two other regiments were reluctant to join in, and did not do so until the following morning. After the 56th had been persuaded to join in the rebellion the 53rd was still standing its ground, when General Wheeler, with an unfortunate error of judgment, ordered the guns to open fire upon it. The regiment then broke, excepting eighty who remained loyal to the end.

After the 53rd had broken they became, probably, as blood-thirsty as their comrades, and doubtless took an active part in the massacre at the Ghat.

When the mutiny broke out two Companies of the 53rd were stationed at Oorai, about eighty miles from Cawnpore, under the command of

Captain Alexander, and Lieutenant Tomkinson. The sepoys of this detachment behaved, when they mutinied, with exceptional moderation; they provided Captain Alexander and his wife with a camel, and started them off to Agra. Still more extraordinary in their behaviour was the sending of the treasure at Oorai in charge of Lieutenant Tomkinson, with an escort of sepoys, to Gwalior, where it was made over to the Treasury there. Tomkinson returned to Oorai, but was told by the sepoys to leave. He found shelter with a Thakur at Jaloun, near Kalpi, until November, when he fell into the hands of the Gwalior Contingent and was murdered.

The 53rd formed part of the army collected by the Nana to oppose the advance of Havelock from Allahabad, which was successively defeated at Futtehpore, Aung; the Pandu Nadi, and Aherwa (Cawnpore) July 16th. After the last named defeat, which drove the Nana and his army in flight from Cawnpore, the 53rd crossed into Oudh, and continued to oppose the advance of the British to Lucknow. On September 21st it was known to be with the force defeated by Havelock at Mungarwar.

This regiment kept the field throughout the campaign of 1858 in Oudh, and on March 5th was part of the rebel force defeated by Rowcroft at Amorha. It is reported that the trained sepoys fought with great courage at this battle, and that the 53rd lost very heavily.

A little more than a year later, at the end of April, 1859, the remnants of the 53rd, which had, throughout, kept with the two other infamous

## 170 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Cawnpore regiments, were with them under the command of a desperate rebel named Gujadar Singh. These had together succeeded in taking up a position in the small, dilapidated Fort of Bangaon at the entrance of the Ghungle jungles in Oudh. Here they were defeated and dispersed by Colonel Walker.

### 54TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Mapert Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1804. Late 2nd Battalion 27th B.N.I. "Ferozeshuhur." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Ripley in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Simpson in command.

See *ante*, 38th B.N.I., page 147.

The sepoys of the 54th, when ordered to march to the city from cantonments, were loud in their protestations of loyalty, and professed themselves as eager to be led against the rebels; but, having looked on at the murder of their officers by troopers of the 3rd Cavalry, the main body of the regiment disappeared into the city, and joined with the rest in massacre and plunder. Two Companies of the regiment, under Major Patterson, who arrived later at the Cashmere Gate, were less mutinous than the others, and for a considerable time remained peaceful and orderly. When all was lost for the British inside the city these men compelled Major Patterson to leave the main guard for the cantonment with some men of the 74th, and just before the Cashmere Gate was closed by the

sepoys of the 38th, thus saving his life; he managed to reach Kurnaul.

The men of the 54th fought against us throughout the siege without any particular distinction. They are not mentioned in any account when the city was taken. The remnant went off south to Oudh.

### 55TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Ockterlony Ka Dinah Paltan)

Raised in 1815. Late 1st Battalion 28th Regiment B.N.I. 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Spottiswoode in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Powell in command.

On May 13th, 1857, the headquarters of the 55th were ordered to move from Nowshera to Hoti Mardan in order to relieve the Corps of Guides. Two Companies were left at Nowshera, and mutinied there on the 21st. They attempted to seize the Bridge-of-boats but were foiled by Taylor of the Engineers, who broke the bridge by removing the middle boats. On the following day these sepoy were ordered to Hoti Mardan, marched there quietly under the officer commanding, Captain Cameron, and joined the main body of the regiment in the Fort.

There was by this time no doubt about the treachery of the regiment. The C.O., Colonel Spottiswoode, had trusted them implicitly, and implored General Cotton not to act against them, but in despair at the discovery shot himself on the night of the 24th.

On that same night a column under the command of Colonel Chute was despatched from Peshawar to deal with the 55th, and reached Hoti Mardan at daybreak on the 25th. As soon as the British force was seen approaching nearly the whole regiment rushed from the Fort, taking with them their arms, the colours, and as much treasure and ammunition as they could carry, and marched off at full speed towards the Swat hills. The officers were not harmed and remained in the Fort with about 120 sepoy, whom, by threats and persuasion, they had induced to stay behind. Chute sent a detachment of all arms in pursuit, and occupied the Fort with the rest of his force.

The rebels had had a long start and the pursuing Infantry never came up with them, nor, from the nature of the country, could the Artillery get within range, but the Cavalry caught them. The 10th and 18th Irregulars only pretended to act, and did not cut down a man, but Nicholson, with a small party of his trusty mounted police, pursued and hunted them all day. The sepoy broke before his charge, scattered over the country, and fought desperately for their lives. Nicholson did not spare them, slaying many with his own sword. By nightfall 120 of the mutineers had been killed, 150 captured; 200 stands of arms, and the regimental colours were also recovered. The prisoners were brought into Peshawar, and all were sentenced to death, but only forty of the worst characters were blown away, on June 10th, the remainder being sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Of the 120 sepoy who had remained with their

officers in the Fort the Hindustanis were known to be disloyal, and were discharged without pay. The Sikhs were allowed to keep their arms, and to enlist in other regiments.

Those of the rebels who, on May 25th, escaped from Nicholson and his sowars, 500 in number and most of them wounded, took refuge in the Lund Khur hills in Swat. It would have been better for them if they had fallen by the sword on the first day of their flight. After a month's miserable sojourn in Swat they were expelled by the Akhoon. In despair they resolved to try and reach Kashmir, and throw themselves on the mercy of the Maharaja Gulab Singh, but to do this they would have to pass through Hazara, or along its borders. They managed to cross the Indus, and made a march in the direction of Khagan. The Deputy Commissioner of Hazara was on the look out and raised the tribes against them; their road was blocked, and they were forced to turn back and attempt to make their way through the wild mountains and defiles of Kohistan, persecuted by the Mahomedan population. Miserable was their condition; without shelter, drenched with rain, hungry and half naked, they struggled and fought their way along the rocky paths of the inhospitable mountains for a weary fortnight. The passes were blocked in front of them, and their rear was pressed on by the ruthless mountaineers, who captured or killed them. Many died from hunger and privation, others were drowned in the mountain torrents. Some of the captured were compulsorily converted to Mahomedanism; so, having escaped the imaginary danger to their caste of the greased



## 174 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

cartridge, they were circumcised, and lost their sacred threads; some were sold as slaves.

The number diminished daily until only a wretched remnant of 124 remained. These gave themselves up and were executed in various parts of the Hazara district.

### 56TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Lambroon Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1815. Late 2nd Battalion 28th Regiment B.N.I. "Maharajpur," "Punjab," "Chillianwalla," "Gujerat." 1857—Brevet Colonel Williams in command. 1858—Captain W. M. Cafe in command.

When the insurrection broke out at Cawnpore on the night of June 5th, 1857, the 56th, together with the 53rd, at first held aloof, and did not join the 1st B.N.I. and 2nd Light Cavalry until the noon of the next day. They afterwards, however, took part in all the devilry, including the massacre in the boats, and joined the Nana's army. A very few sepoys of this regiment remained faithful, and helped in the defence of the entrenchment. Some of them were captured when leaving it, on June 27th, by the mutineers of their own regiment, who tried them by a mock court martial, and sentenced them to have their hands and noses cut off. The execution of the sentence was deferred until the anticipated, victorious return from Fattehpore. Whether the sentence was ever carried out or not I have been unable to discover.

The three Cawnpore B.N.I. Regiments kept together when driven from Cawnpore; they opposed

Havelock's advance, and afterwards fought in Oudh throughout 1858. On September 9th, 1857, Mr. Sherer reported, in the N.W.P. Intelligence Records, that some of them, with portions of the 41st B.N.I., 2nd Light Cavalry, 18th, 3rd and 14th Oudh Irregulars—in all twelve to fifteen hundred men—were at Farrackabad, but dispersed on hearing of the arrival of the British at Aligarh. On March 5th, 1858, they were part of the force defeated at Amoraha. On April 13th, 1859, the three regiments were beaten, eight miles from Gonda, by a force under Lieutenant-Colonel Cormick, consisting of a wing of Her Majesty's 20th Regiment, 200 of the 1st Sikh Cavalry and a squadron of Hodson's Horse; three or four hundred of the rebels were killed. Captain Jones of the Sikh Cavalry was wounded, and two troopers were killed. They had now got to the end of their tether, and, at the end of the month, were finally defeated and dispersed at the Fort of Bangaon by Colonel Walker, with 400 of Her Majesty's 53rd, 60 of the 1st Sikh Cavalry, the 2nd Dragoon Guards and two guns. Their leader, Gujadur Singh, and 150 rebels, were killed.

#### 57TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Lord Moira Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1815. Late 1st Battalion 29th B.N.I. "Assam." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Darvall in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Darvall in command.

The story of the outbreak at Ferozepore is summarized *ante*, 45th B.N.I., page 150. The

## 176 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

behaviour of the 57th was far less heinous than that of the 45th, although some of its men did assist the men of the 45th in their attempt to seize the magazine. The men of the 57th marched quietly to their camping-ground on May 15th, and not a man of that regiment took part in the plundering and destruction of the cantonment on the same night.

On the 14th the 57th were informed that they would be treated as loyal soldiers if they would lay down their arms in the European lines. The Light Company did so, but the remainder of the regiment were seized with panic and fled out of cantonments. They were followed by their officers; their fears were dispelled, and they were persuaded to return to their camping-ground. Gradually confidence was restored, and, by nightfall, they were marched to the European lines, and there laid down their arms, and colours, but with a defiant air.

Subsequently 300 deserted. A guard from the regiment on duty in the district had tried to incite rebellion, and the disbandment of the regiment was decided upon. An order to this effect was read on parade to the remnant of the regiment; they were sent away, and the number of the 57th B.N.I. was effaced from the army list.

### 58TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Bisheshwar Ka Paltan)

Raised in 1815. Late 2nd Battalion 29th  
B.N.I. "Bhurtpore," "Punnier." 1857  
—Major Mills in command. 1858—  
Major Mills in command.

This regiment was disarmed at Rawal Pindi on July 7th, 1857. A parade was ordered for that day to hear a general order read, when, suddenly, four Companies of Her Majesty's 24th, and three Horse Artillery guns wheeled, and faced the 58th, also two Companies of the 14th B.N.I. The sepoy's immediately bolted for their lines, followed by their officers. The men of the 58th were persuaded to give up their arms, but the regiment was subsequently disbanded.

#### 59TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised in 1815. Late 1st Battalion 30th B.N.I. "Sobraon." 1857 — Captain Stokes in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Boyd in command.

The 59th was disarmed at Amritsar on July 9th by Nicholson, as a precaution, but rather reluctantly. There had not been a shadow of suspicion on its loyalty, and, after the parade at which they had been disarmed, the sepoy's voluntarily produced a quantity of arms belonging to men on furlough or sick. The regiment subsequently became the 8th B.N.I.

#### 60TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised in 1815. Late 2nd Battalion 30th B.N.I. "Bhurtpore," "Caubul," 1842. 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Seaton in command. 1858—Major Drought in command.

The 60th actually mutinied at Umballa on May 10th, 1857; the day of the Meerut outbreaks.

At both stations the plots were identical. The Europeans were to have been murdered whilst in church and unarmed. The plot fell through at both stations. (See *ante*, 5th B.N.I., page 82.) Nevertheless both the 5th and the 60th broke into the bells of arms, and seized their muskets and accoutrements. Colonel Drought, Lieutenant Walker, and other officers, were soon on the spot, and, by preventing the approach of a troop of Horse Artillery, succeeded in pacifying the sepoys, who returned their arms and accoutrements.

General Barnard thought it politic to pardon this open act of mutiny, held a parade, and, in an address, told the men he was sure they had acted mistakenly, and in a panic. The sepoys were required to pass the colours in single file, and kiss both, thus taking a fresh oath of fidelity. Spectators informed the officers afterwards that each man, after he had passed the colours for a short distance, spat on the ground.

Colonel Seaton took command of the regiment on the 15th.

On May 22nd the 60th marched with the British troops towards Kurnaul where the army for the siege of Delhi was assembling. The regiment was still mutinous, and it was considered that it would be more dangerous if left at Umballa with the 5th, than in the company of a strong body of British troops. John Lawrence urged its disarmament after the affair of May 10th, but the C. in C., considering that a promise of pardon had been made, would not agree. At Kurnaul he saw his mistake and the regiment was separated and turned off to Rohtak, a civil station fifty miles

from Delhi, and connected with that city by a good, metalled road.

It was a cruel, half-hearted measure to order a regiment that had once mutinied, and was known to be turbulent and ill conditioned, to an isolated station within easy reach of Delhi. Nobody in the army expected to see the officers again. On the march to Rohtak from Kurnaul there were several overt and insolent acts of mutiny, and the officers' lives were all the time in danger. On the same afternoon the Grenadier Company broke out, armed themselves, and commenced firing on the officers. Fortunately their syces had their horses ready and they were able to escape just in time. The Sergeant-Major was slightly wounded, the others were unhurt, and all eventually reached the camp at Delhi.

The regiment arrived at Delhi on June 12th. Warning had been given by the escaped officers; fire was opened upon them by the British Artillery, and the 9th Lancers charged them on the road leading to the Lahore Gate. The left wing was almost annihilated.

On the following day a sortie was made by the rebels from the city, led by the 60th; the attack was repulsed with heavy loss, and the 60th was so cut up that, by the end of the day, it had practically ceased to exist as a regiment. Enough of it remained in Delhi to form, with some of the 72nd, the guard on the palace on August 7th, when the gates were closed in the face of Bakht Khan and the Bareilly Brigade, who intended to seize Ahsun Ali, the King's minister. The other rebels threatened to disarm the men of

## 180 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

these two regiments, but nothing came of the threat.

When the headquarters of the regiment marched to Kurnaul a hundred of them remained in Umballa, and, on the occasion of a false alarm that an enemy force was approaching the station, readily obeyed the order of the officer commanding them to turn out.

Presumably they were disarmed, but I can find no mention that this was done. On August 29th, in consequence of some misdemeanour on the part of some men of the 5th B.N.I., it was decided to confine the remaining sepoy of both regiments. They were paraded but broke and fled, and 150 of the 200 were killed in the pursuit that followed.

### 61ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1823. Late 1st Battalion 31st B.N.I.  
1857 — Major Innes. 1858 — Major  
Innes.

The 61st mutinied at Jalandhar on June 7th, together with 36th and 6th L.C. (See *ante*, 36th B.N.I., page 143.) Many men remained faithful, assisted and saved their officers. They were subsequently, with the loyal remnants of the 3rd and 36th—350 men in all—formed into the 17th B.N.I., named Wafadar Paltan.

Although checked by Ricketts at the Sutlej, and having suffered severe losses, the bulk of the regiment entered Delhi, and, on June 23rd, took part in the attack on the Hindu Rao position, which lasted from noon to sunset. Determined charges were made by the rebels, and the result

seemed doubtful until the arrival of British supports. In the end the rebels suffered severely; they left 400 dead in the Sabzimandi houses. The 61st is not mentioned as a regiment after this incident.

#### 62ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1823. Late 2nd Battalion 31st B.N.I.  
"Arracan." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel  
Richardson in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson in command.

At the commencement of the mutiny the 62nd was at Mooltan, with the 69th, 1st Irregular Cavalry, and a native Battery of Artillery. The station was commanded by Major Crawford Chamberlain, of the 1st Regiment Irregular Cavalry, an experienced and very able officer, with great influence over his men, who were known to be staunch. The native Artillerymen were considered to be inclined to be loyal, but doubtful; the two B.N.I. Regiments were strongly distrusted. There were in the station 60 European Artillerymen as against 3,500 native troops. At that time, therefore, disarmament was out of the question.

On May 14th Chamberlain called a meeting of all the native officers at his house to discuss the situation, and discovered that some cartridges that had recently arrived in the station were suspected. He ordered a parade for the same afternoon, and had the suspected cartridges brought out and examined by the sepoy themselves; they could find nothing wrong and professed themselves satisfied. Outwardly all went well for a time; as



## 182 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

much as possible was done to prepare the Fort for defence, and to ensure the safety of cantonments.

Chamberlain was, however, by no means convinced of the loyalty of the 62nd and 69th; Hughes Cavalry (1st Punjab), and the 2nd Punjab Irregular Infantry, arrived to reinforce him, and, on June 10th, he skilfully disarmed the two B.N.I. Regiments; many desertions occurred the same night. A wing of the 1st Bo. Fusiliers subsequently strengthened the garrison.

Though disarmed the native Infantry were a constant trouble, and loyal troops had to be employed to watch them; consequently, disbandment was resolved on, and the sepoys were informed. At first they acquiesced, but on second thoughts suspected a ruse to destroy them. Suddenly panic-stricken, they rose on 31st August, armed with clubs and any weapons they could get hold of, and attacked the Europeans and Sikhs. In the surprise five Europeans and Lieutenant Miles, Adjutant of the 1st Bombay Fusiliers, were killed. The surprise did not last long, and the treacherous rebels were shot down in hundreds. The bulk escaped from the station, and made for Sutlej, hoping to find an asylum at Bhawalpur. The river was in flood and many were drowned; all the rest were killed or captured by police and villagers. Of 1,300 men none remained.

### 63RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1822. Late 1st Battalion 32nd B.N.I.  
"Bhurtpore," "Sobraon." 1857—Brevet  
Colonel Houghton in command. 1858—

Lieutenant-Colonel Hannyngton in command.

Although feigned protestations of loyalty were made by the men of this regiment their disaffection was early known, and they were disarmed at Berhampore on August 2nd, 1857, by Her Majesty's 90th L.I. "The affair was managed with coolness and success, but the conduct of the sepoys was such as to establish clearly the necessity of the precaution that had been taken." The 63rd B.N.I. eventually became the 9th B.N.I.

64TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY  
(Harriott Ka Paltan)

Raised 1813. Late 2nd Battalion 32nd B.N.I. "Cabul" 1842. 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel Garrett in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Garrett in command.

This regiment was the worst dispositioned of all those in the Peshawar Garrison. When the news of the outbreak arrived there it was deported, ostensibly to reinforce the frontier posts of the station. It was divided into detachments and marched to Forts Abazai, Michnee and Shabkudr. These detachments were quietly disarmed by separate parties of Colonel Chute's Column early in June. The regiment was subsequently disbanded.

65TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1823. Late 1st Battalion 33rd B.N.I. 1857—Major Bush in command. 1858—Lieutenant-Colonel Bush in command.

## 184 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

The 65th was disarmed at Ghazipur. It subsequently became the 10th B.N.I.

### 66TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Goorkha Regiment)

Raised in 1815. Embodied from the old Nasseree Battalion 27th February, 1850.

Remained loyal, and became the 1st Goorkhas.

### 67TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1823. Late 1st Battalion 34th B.N.I. "Pegu." 1857—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Cotton in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Douglas (thirty-eight years' service) in command.

This regiment being undoubtedly disloyal, and on the verge of mutiny, was disarmed at Agra, together with the 44th, on May 31st, 1857. The men were given leave to their homes, and dispersed, never to reassemble. Some went off to Delhi.

### 68TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised in 1823. Late 2nd Battalion 34th B.N.I. "Sobraon," "Pegu." 1857—Brevet Colonel Troup (thirty-eight years' service) in command. 1858—Brevet Colonel Troup in command.

The 68th started the mutiny at Bareilly on May 31st, 1857, and, after the usual atrocities, marched to Delhi with the Rohilkhand Brigade. This body of troops entered the city on July 2nd. It was the custom in Delhi for reinforcements to

signalize their arrival by an attack on the British position, and on July 4th, the centenary of Plassy, the Rohilkhand rebels headed a sortie which had for its object some vague idea of cutting our communications. A force was sent out to oppose them, but Bakht Khan drew off, and re-entered the city, without having suffered much loss.

When Delhi was taken the 68th, still with the Rohilkhand Brigade, moved south into Rohilkhand. In the N.W.P. Intelligence Records, October 2nd, 1857, it is stated that there was ill feeling between this Brigade and the others. The latter were hungry and ill furnished, the former had their purses well stocked with silver and gold. There was a strong party against the Rohilkhand troops being allowed to cross the Jumna, and go off with their treasure to Bareilly. It talked loudly of the necessity of striking a blow nearer at hand, and of improving its impoverished resources. The Rohilkhand Brigade, being the strongest in every respect, had its way, crossed, and was followed by the Nasirabad, and other Delhi troops.

The 68th fought on through 1858, with gradually diminishing numbers, and, at last, disappeared as a regiment.

#### 69TH RÉGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1825. "Punjab," "Chillianwalla,"  
"Gujerat." 1857—Lieutenant-Colonel  
Hicks in command. 1858—Lieutenant-  
Colonel Hicks in command.

After its disarmament at Mooltan, on June 10th, 1857, the history of the 69th is practically the same as that of the 62nd. (See *ante*, page 182.)

## 186 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

The Subadar Major of the 69th, a hypocritical scoundrel, was the arch traitor of the station. He was arrested at a parade held on the day after the disarmament, and was afterwards hanged.

### 70TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1825. "Punjab," "Chillianwalla,"  
"Gujerat." 1857 — Brevet Colonel  
Kennedy. 1858 — Brevet Colonel  
Kennedy.

The 70th was disarmed at Barrackpore on June 14th, 1857, with the other native Infantry regiments stationed there. Numbers of the men deserted during the night.

This regiment remained loyal, was sent on service to China, and became the 11th B.N.I.

### 71ST REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1825. "Punjab." 1857—Brevet  
Colonel Halford in command. 1858—  
Captain Strangways in command.

The first to rise, and the most conspicuous among the mutineers at Lucknow on the night of May 30th, 1857, were the sepoys of the 71st. Parties of them had been previously told off to murder the officers and fire the bungalows. Some of them, however, left their comrades and fell in alongside Her Majesty's 32nd Regiment, but they brought neither their colours nor the treasure, of which the mutineers had possessed themselves.

The 71st took an active part in the siege of the Residency, the loyal men in the defence, and the mutineers in the attacks.

Men of this regiment had the custody of the unfortunate captives in the Kaiser Bagh—fugitives from Sitapore, betrayed by the Raja of Mithouli—and on November 16th, 1857, brutally murdered the men, Sir Mountstuart Jackson, Captain Patrick Orr, Lieutenant Burnes, and Sergeant-Major Morton.

A terrible retribution overtook the 71st. It was part of the force holding the Secundra Bagh when that enclosure was stormed on the same day, November 16th. Every single man was killed. The services of the loyal men during the siege, and their appreciation, have been already described. (See *ante*, 13th B.N.I.)

#### 72ND REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1825. "Punjab," "Mooltan,"  
"Guzerat." 1857—Brevet Lieutenant-  
Colonel P. Abbott in command. 1858  
—Lieutenant-Colonel P. Abbott in  
command.

When the mutiny broke out this regiment was at Nimach with the 7th Infantry of the Gwalior Contingent, a wing of the 1st Light Cavalry, and the 4th Troop 1st Brigade Horse Artillery (native). They all rose on June 3rd, 1857, and, after murder, plunder, and destruction, started for Agra on the road to Delhi. "It was found that the mutineers of all arms had assembled on the parade ground on the morning of the 4th of June in front of the fortified square after plundering the bazaar and Treasury; they then went to the parade ground of the 72nd B.N.I., where two months' pay was issued, and Subadar Gurres Ram nominated to the

command of the regiment, Subadar Suderree Sing, 1st Light Cavalry, having been appointed Brigadier, and Jemadar Dost Mahomed Major of Brigade. Small parties were then detached in all directions to collect carriages. About 1 p.m. a panic arose in consequence of a report that European troops were marching on the station. They all packed up their plunder hastily (vast quantities being abandoned, owing to want of transport) and marched out of the place with the band playing. The first halt they made was at Nimbhera, a town belonging to the Nawab of Tonk, sixteen miles from Nimach on the road to Delhi. Here they were entertained by the native authorities of the town. The next morning they continued their march, after shooting some troopers of the 1st Light Cavalry, and some sepoy of the 7th Regiment Gwalior Contingent, who had rejoined the column after seeing their officers to a place of safety."

On July 5th, having been joined by the Kotah Contingent, the Nimach Brigade were in camp at Sassiah, two miles from the Agra Cantonment. Strongly posted, half of its Artillery on one flank and half on the other. The garrison of Agra marched out to attack them, but the generalship was bad; the ammunition became exhausted, and the British force was obliged to retreat into the Fort followed by the rebels, who set fire to buildings in Agra; but, being short of ammunition, continued, that same night, their march to Delhi, where they were received with a salute in honour for their victory at Sassiah.

The Nimach Brigade was routed at the battle of Najafgarh by Nicholson, and its career as a

Brigade ended there. Some of the 72nd kept together under one of their Subadars, Hira Singh, whom they had promoted to the rank of Colonel, and these men were with the force routed by Greathed at Kari Nadi. After this the remnants went on to Rohilkhand and were no more heard of.

#### 73RD REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

Raised 1825. "Mooltan," "Moodkee,"  
"Ferozeshuhur," "Punjab." 1857—  
Lieutenant-Colonel Sherer in command.  
1858—Brevet Colonel Sherer in command.

The headquarters of the 73rd were, in May, 1857, at Julpigori, a short distance from the border of Bhutan; an isolated station far from any European troops, but nevertheless an important post. Very soon after the outbreak at Meerut, rumours, reports, letters, and emissaries reached the sepoy, and their attitude became very doubtful. Fortunately, in this instance, the C.O., Colonel Sherer, was a resolute and capable officer. He had no intention of attempting to disarm his men, even if ordered to do so, and his boldness in trusting them proved successful. On his own responsibility he took action against the instigators of the rebellion in the regiment. Plot after plot was discovered, chiefly through the fidelity of some of the native officers, for a rising, and the murder of the British officers. The culprits in every case were surprised, tried by court martial, sentenced to penal servitude, ironed, and sent off down the River Teesta, to Calcutta.

By punishing the guilty and by rewarding the



## 190 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

faithful, above all by his strong personal influence, Colonel Sherer, through many months of anxiety, kept his regiment together, and faithful to their colours. Two Companies of the 73rd were stationed at Dacca, and with them a detachment of native Artillery of two guns. On November 22nd, 1857, an attempt was made to disarm them by Lieutenant Lewis of the Indian Navy, with four officers and eighty-five bluejackets, two mountain howitzers and about thirty English volunteers. The sepoys and Golundaze resisted, and posted themselves in their lines with the guns in their centre. A sharp fight resulted in the flight of the rebels, with the loss of 52 of their number and the two guns. One of these was very gallantly captured by Midshipman Mayo.

The sepoys made off towards Julpigori, but finding it impossible to cross the intervening country took refuge, for a time, in Bhutan. Mr. George Yule, Commissioner of Eastern Behar, went in pursuit, and came up with them strongly posted at Chawa Ghat on the Teesta, on December 27th. The rebels slipped away in the night, and after being chased by Yule, and Major Richardson with the Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry, for another month, got away into Oudh, where all trace of them was lost.

### 74TH REGIMENT BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

(Alexander Ka Paltan)

Raised 1825. 1857—Major Abbott in command. 1858—Major Abbott in command.

The 74th mutinied with the other two native

Infantry regiments at Delhi on May 11th, but its conduct was not so outrageous as that of the others. The majority deserted during the day, but those who remained with their officers obeyed orders, though reluctantly and sullenly. Several of the officers were murdered, but by men of another regiment. The sepoy of the 74th joined the others inside the city. There is no further mention of them, but the remnant no doubt went south into Oudh and Rohilkhand when Delhi was taken.

By the time that the mutiny had been suppressed there were 15,000 disarmed Hindustani sepoy in the Punjab, and it became a question as to how to dispose of them. The plan adopted was disbandment in batches. Twenty men a day from each station were sent off under a small armed police guard, and marched stage by stage until they reached the border of their own country, where they were left free to go where they liked. Three different routes were chosen in order to obviate a collection at any one point in force. Besides those in the Punjab there were 13,000 disarmed sepoy in other parts of the Presidency. These were similarly dealt with.

A few exceptions were made. The 33rd, 58th, 59th B.N.I., and the right wing of the 4th B.N.I., had their arms restored to them on parade with ceremony.

## CHAPTER V

### IRREGULARS AND CONTINGENTS

#### 1ST REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

“Bhurtpore,” “Kandahar.” Commandant, Major Chamberlain. Raised, 1803, by Captain I. Skinner from a body of Perron’s Horse in Seindia’s service, and who came over to the British after the battle of Delhi. Originally styled Captain Skinner’s Corps of Irregular Horse, and became 1st Regiment of Local Horse, 1823, the 1st Bengal Irregular Cavalry, 1840, the 1st Regiment Bengal Cavalry, 1861.

This regiment remained loyal and did good service at Mooltan.

#### 2ND REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

“Arracan,” “Sobraon,” “Punjab.” Commandant, Major Jackson. Raised at Farrackabad and Mynpuri, 1809, by Lieutenant-Colonel Gardiner. Originally styled Lieutenant-Colonel Gardiner’s Irregular Horse; became 2nd Regiment of Local Horse, 1823, 2nd Bengal

Irregular Cavalry, 1840, 2nd Bengal Cavalry, 1861.

This regiment was at Gardaspur and remained faithful.

## 3RD REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

"Cabul," "Ferozeshuhur," "Punjab," "Chilianwalla," "Gujerat." Commandant, Major Hire.

The greater part of this regiment mutinied at Saugor on July 1st, 1857, and was, with the 42nd B.N.I., driven out of the station by the 31st B.N.I. and a certain number of their own comrades who remained loyal. The main body joined the Nana's army, and were with it when it was defeated by Havelock on August 16th. In the N.W.P. Intelligence Records, it was reported that on August 12th 100 sowars of the 3rd Irregular Cavalry passed Secundra Rao going to their homes at Bolundshuhur. They came from Saugor, and said that their native officers, and the "Lambora" Paltan, were staunch there.

The loyal remnant, together with that of the 12th I.C., served most creditably under Lieutenant Johnson, of the 12th, in all the engagements between Cawnpore and Lucknow, and subsequently at Alumbagh.

## 4TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

"Afghanistan," "Ghazni," "Maharajpore,"  
 "Kelat," "Moodkee," "Aliwal,"  
 "Ferozeshuhur." Commandant, Major Martin. Raised at Hansi by Lieutenant-

Colonel I. Skinner. Originally 2nd Corps of Lieutenant-Colonel Skinner's Irregular Horse, Baddeley's Frontier Horse, 1821, 4th Regiment Local Horse, 1823, 4th Bengal Irregular Cavalry, 1840, 3rd Bengal Cavalry, 1861.

In 1857 the regiment was stationed at Hansi with detachments of Hissar and Sirsa. The portion of the regiment at Hansi mutinied on May 29th, 1857, with the Harriana Light Infantry, and murdered their officer, Lieutenant Smith. So did also the detachment at Hissar, where Mr. Wedderburn of the Civil Service was murdered by a sowar. The mutineers went off to Delhi.

Some of the 4th Irregulars remained faithful, ninety of them were in the British Camp at Delhi under Captain Hall, and behaved well, but were disarmed as a precautionary measure. They were allowed to remain in the camp, and employed as unarmed police. A sowar of this regiment, named Rooper Khan, was one of General Hope Grant's orderlies, and saved the General's life on June 19th.

#### 5TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Commandant, Major Macdonald. In 1857 was stationed in the Southal District. Headquarters at Rohni.

On June 12th, 1857, a murderous attack was made by three sowars of the regiment on Major Macdonald, Sir Norman Leslie, Adjutant, and Dr. Grant, medical officer, while they were seated in front of Major Macdonald's bungalow. Leslie

was killed, and the others were severely wounded. The assassins made off, but a few days afterwards were apprehended, tried and hanged out of hand. This summary justice kept the regiment quiet for a time, but on August 14th, panic-stricken by the arrival of a few European troops in a steamer at Bhagulpore, where the 5th then were, the sowars fled during the night, molesting no one, and leaving all their property behind them.

The deserters at first made for Bowsi, thirty-six miles off, where the 32nd B.N.I. were stationed, hoping to get that regiment to join them; the 32nd, however, up to that time, were loyal, and showed themselves hostile. The 5th continued their flight westwards towards Arrah via Rohni. It seems that eventually it made its way into Central India, and joined Tantia Topi, for, on December 1st, 1858, when the rebels were defeated by Parke at Chota Adaipur, a standard of the regiment was captured during the pursuit.

#### 6TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Commandant, Captain Curtis. Raised at Sultanpore in 1838 by Captain Newberry as the Cavalry Regiment of the Oudh Auxiliary Force; became the 6th Regiment Bengal Irregular Cavalry, 1840, and the 4th Regiment Bengal Cavalry, 1861.

This regiment was stationed at Mooltan and Jacobabad in 1857, and remained faithful.

#### 7TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1841 by Captain Wheler at Bareilly.

## 196 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Mulcaster.

This regiment was disarmed at Peshawar. It became the 5th Regiment Bengal Cavalry, 1861.

### 8TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1842 by Lieutenant W. H. Rypes at Fattengarh. "Punnier," "Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon." Commandant, Captain Mackenzie.

The 8th I.C. mutinied at Bareilly on May 31st, 1857, but did not murder any of their officers. Twelve native officers and eleven sowars remained faithful. The most prominent traitor in the regiment was the senior native officer, Mahomed Shaffi, who had an understanding with Khan Bahadur Khan, heir of the last independent ruler of Rohilkhand, Hafiz Rahmat, and was the chief instigator of the mutiny in Bareilly. Mahomed Shaffi led off the left wing to join the other mutineers when the regiment was turned out on May 31st.

The 8th I.C. went to Delhi with the rest of the Rohilkhand Brigade, and fought during the siege; it also took part in the Bakht Khan's attempt against our rear on the night of July 3rd and July 4th. The action of July 9th was commenced by a sudden attack by two squadrons of the 8th L.C. on a picket of ours consisting of two Horse Artillery guns under Lieutenant Hills, a body of the Carabineers under Lieutenant Stillman, and some of the 9th Irregular Cavalry under a native officer.

The Carabineers disgraced their regiment by

bolting and leaving their officers behind; the 9th I.C. sat on their horses looking on, the Artillerymen galloped off with one gun towards the park, the other was overturned. Hills, after cutting down several of the rebels, was dismounted, and left lying on the ground; a dismounted sowar was about to kill him when Major Tombs came to his rescue and shot the sowar. The 8th L.C. swept on through the pickets right into our camp and to the native Artillery lines, calling on the Golundaze of Renny's Battery to fraternize and bring their guns into Delhi. The surprise was soon over; Renny shot several of the sowars, and Captain Fagan, getting together a few Carabineers, killed about a dozen more. Eventually these daring rebels fled back to Delhi, leaving thirty-five dead behind them.

After the city had been assaulted it seems, from the N.W.P. Intelligence Records, that the 8th L.C. sent off their baggage in charge of picked men and two guns, by the Muttra road, the main body following a day or two later. The advanced guard was at Kosi on September 23rd. From Muttra the remnant of the regiment went direct to Bareilly, and probably many of them went off to their homes. There is no further mention of the regiment. On January 11th, 1858, eight of its men, still in uniform, were captured near Mynpuri.

The twenty-three native officers and sowars who remained faithful stayed and fought with Captain Mackenzie throughout 1858, and, on April 6th of that year, were commended for marked gallantry at Harha. When the regiment was reorganized in



## 198 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

1861, and became the 6th Bengal Cavalry, these loyal men were rewarded.

### 9TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1844. "Ghazni," "Kandahar,"  
"Ghaznee," "Cabul," "Jellalabad,"  
"Sande," "Punniar," "Maharajpur,"  
"Moodkee," "Ferozeshuhur," "Sobraon,"  
"Punjab," "Chillianwalla," "Gujerat."  
Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Tytler.

When the mutiny broke out this regiment was stationed at Hoshiarpur. A wing of it accompanied the first siege-train to Delhi; the headquarters wing joined the British camp at Delhi on July 2nd, 1857. A detachment remained at Hoshiarpur, and subsequently mutinied.

There was soon every reason to suspect the loyalty of the sowars of the 9th I.C. It was known that they were in communication with their friends of the 8th I.C. who had mutinied, and were with the rebel force in the city, and it was conjectured that the attack of the 8th on July 9th (see *ante*, page 196) had been planned between the two regiments. On that occasion the picket of the 9th did not offer the slightest opposition to the 8th, nor did it raise any alarm. Moreover, very many desertions had occurred. In consequence it was decided to send the regiment away from Delhi, and to break it up into detachments. The headquarters were sent to Alipore to assist in keeping up communications, and detachments into the divisions of Saharunpur, Sonput, and Panput. Large desertions continued, and the

whole regiment, still in separate detachments, was marched northwards *en route* for Bannu.

While on the way to that station a portion of the Corps was halted at a village called Kalabagh, on the Indus, and there mutinied at night, headed by Ressaldar Wazir Khan. Captain Campbell, the officer commanding, was asleep in his doolie; shots were fired and five bullets passed through it. The mutineers moved off, and were at first met by a party of Multani Horse whose officers could not bring them to the attack. The party of the 9th I.C. moved on, and were soon overtaken by a body of the 17th I.C. under Captain Hockin, who, having called upon the sowars of the 9th to lay down their arms, was about to charge them, when Wazir Khan, a fine, brave man, stepped forward and challenged Ressaldar Ali Wardi Khan of the 17th I.C. to single combat. The rest pulled up and watched the fight. Ali Wardi Khan was severely wounded, but he killed Wazir Khan. The sowars of the 17th, most of them Poorbeahs, led by Hockin, attacked the mutineers, who were all killed.

The remnant of the regiment was eventually disbanded.

#### 10TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1838. Commandant, Major Verner.

In 1857 this regiment was quartered at Nowshera. It showed itself mutinous early in the trouble, both at Nowshera in refusing to act against the openly rebellious 55th B.N.I., and again in the pursuit of the sepoys of the same regiment from Hoti Mardan,

## 200 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

when they only pretended to join in. Consequently it was decided to disband them. One wing was marched to Peshawar, the other remained at Nowshera. Both wings were disarmed on the same day; the horses, all arms, accoutrements, uniform, money and other property, were confiscated. With nothing but the clothes on their backs, and four rupees to each man, the mutinous sowars were marched to Attock, sent across the Indus, and turned adrift.

### 11TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846.	" Punjab,"	" Mooltan,"
" Gujerat."	Commandant,	Captain
Alexander.		

Stationed when the mutiny broke out at Berhampore, with detachments at Madarigunj and Jalpaigori. It was known that the regiment intended to rise, and on August 3rd it was disarmed; surprised by the unexpected visit of Her Majesty's 90th to Berhampore for the purpose. The sowars were deprived of their horses, arms, and ammunition, and rendered furious but powerless.

On the nights of December 4th and 5th the detachments mutinied, and went off spreading alarm throughout the district. These rebel sowars were chased by Yule, and forced to take refuge in Nepal territory. What subsequently became of them I am unable to discover.

A portion of the regiment made its way into Oudh; for some men belonging to it were, with some of the 1st and 2nd L.C., and 12th and 13th I.C., part of the force defeated in the Etawah District on December 6th, 1858, by Lieutenant Forbes.

## 12TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846. "Punjab," "Gujerat." Commandant, Major Holmes.

Stationed at Segowli in 1857. On the evening of July 25th the men rose in mutiny, murdered Major Holmes, his wife, and the other Europeans in the station; plundered the Treasury, and spread over the country. A detachment at Gorakpur was disarmed by Mr. Wynyard when the Nepalese contingent arrived there. The men gave up their arms readily to the officer commanding them, Ressaldar Mahomed Bakhsh Khan, but immediately afterwards a few of them made a rush, recovered their arms, mounted their horses and galloped off. They were pursued by their own comrades, under Captain Warren, and seven were killed. The eighty-three loyal sowars remained faithful to the end, did good service, and, under Lieutenant Johnson, marched with Havelock and Outram to the relief of Lucknow. Ressaldar Mahomed Bakhsh Khan became an extra A.D.C. to the Governor-General. Another Ressaldar of the regiment, Kasim Khan, was made one of the Commanders of the rebel force that besieged Lucknow, but nothing more was heard of him.

Johnson with his loyal remnant, and also some sowars of the 3rd I.C., joined Outram, who was on his way up with reinforcements from Calcutta at Benares. He was at once sent to overtake a column under Major Eyre. He did so, after a forced march of twenty-four hours, and took part, on September 11th, 1857, in the affair at Khundanpati, when a party of insurgents from Oudh, three or

## 202 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

four hundred in number, with four guns, was destroyed; only three escaped.

This loyal remnant fought in all the engagements between Cawnpore and Lucknow, and entered the Residency with the relieving force.

Subsequently, after the second relief, these sowars of the 12th did good service under Outram at Alambagh. Johnson was invalided in January, 1858, but his men continued to serve through the campaign in Oudh of that year, and attached to the Azimgarh Field Force. The main body of the regiment was, of course, with the rebel Moulvi's army. On April 11th, 1858, a troop rode through Sir Hope Grant's camp, reconnoitring; on being challenged they gave the name of their regiment, were taken for the loyal remnant, and were allowed to ride off unmolested with the information they wanted. On December 6th, 1858, some men of the regiment were with the rebel force defeated in the Etawah district by Lieutenant Forbes.

In January, 1859, the surviving mutineers of the 12th I.C. went from Oudh to Central India with the rebel leader Ferozshah to join Tantia Topi. The mutineers were badly beaten on the way, near Gooma, by General Napier, and 150 of the I.C. were killed. This was the end of the regiment.

### 13TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846. "Punjab," "Gujerat." Commandant, Captain H. I. Guise.

The headquarters mutinied at Benares on June 4th, 1857, when the garrison was paraded to witness the disarming of the 37th B.N.I. Captain

Guise was shot by a sepoy of the 37th. Detachments of the regiment at other stations also mutinied. One detachment had been sent from Benares, under Lieutenant Palliser, to escort treasure from Azimghar, and had just started on the return journey when the sepoys of the 17th B.N.I. followed and seized the money. The sowars of the 13th would not act against their officers; protected them and brought them back to Benares; but mutinied on the following day.

Some of the 13th L.C. went to Delhi with Bakht Khan's force, and took part in the defence of the city. A party of them, together with some of the 1st and 14th I.C., and 1,000 "armed rascals," had the temerity to oppose Hodson at Rohtak, where he had taken a small force of 300 sabres to re-establish order in the district. They paid dearly, losing 50 dead in one charge made by the Guides and Hodson's Horse.

The majority of the regiment went off to Azimgarh, where they had rallied after their flight from Benares; from there to Cawnpore, joined the Nana's army and took part in the Ghat massacre. When driven from Cawnpore they went into Oudh, and are mentioned as having been with the force defeated in the Etawah district by Lieutenant Forbes on December 6th, 1858.

They gradually melted as the other Corps of mutineers did.

#### 14TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846. "Punjab." Commandant,  
Captain Skinner.

In May, 1857, the headquarters and right wing

was at Jhansi, and the left wing at Nowgong. The portion at Jhansi mutinied on June 6th; killed all the officers they came across; plundered and destroyed; released the prisoners from the jail, and invested the fort where the remaining Europeans had taken refuge. When these were induced to surrender under treacherous assurances and massacred, the sowars of the 14th I.C. were foremost in the atrocious murder of the captured men, women and children. On June 10th the wing at Nowgong also mutinied with the other native troops stationed there. Some of the 14th I.C. made off to Delhi, the rest joined the Nana's army at Cawnpore. Little is recorded of them as a regiment after this date. Some were with the party defeated so thoroughly at Rohtak by Hodson on August 18th; others were at Farrackabad in September, 1857, and dispersed on hearing that a British force had arrived at Aligarh.

#### 15TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised in 1846. "Punjab." Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher.

The headquarters mutinied at Sultanpore on June 9th. Colonel Fisher was killed by one of the Oudh Military Police, and the Second-in-Command, Captain Gibbings, by his own men. After the outbreak the 15th I.C. went off with the 8th Oudh Irregular Infantry, and an Oudh Military Police Battalion, to Nawabgunj.

A squadron was stationed at Fyzabad and mutinied on the night of June 8th. The senior Rissaldar was the ringleader of the mutiny in

the station, and did all he could to get the sepoy of the 22nd B.N.I. to murder their officers. This squadron joined the headquarters. The men of the 15th I.C. were bigoted Mahomedans and hard fighters. They were well to the front in the siege of Lucknow, and in resistance to the two relief columns, and to the capture. The regiment furnished many leaders to the rebel army, among them Rissaldar Barkut Ahmed, who commanded the mutineers at Chinhut. A fine native officer of the 15th I.C. was killed by Lieutenant Watson when leading the rebels on November 15th, 1857, during Sir Colin Campbell's first advance. On March 11th, 1859, during Sir Colin's second advance, Outram surprised and captured the camp of the 15th I.C., with two guns and the standards. Very many men of the regiment were killed that day.

#### 16TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised in 1846. "Punjab." Commandant, Major Davidson.

This regiment was disarmed at Rawal Pindi, and seems to have remained quiet afterwards. I can find no further mention of it.

#### 17TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846 at Cawnpore and Meerut by Captain Liptrott, as 16th Irregular Cavalry. Became 17th Irregular Cavalry, 1847, and 7th Bengal Cavalry, 1861. "Punjab."

This regiment was serving in the British Camp



## 206 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

before Delhi when the behaviour of the 9th I.C. decided the authorities to send it back to the Punjab in detachments. It was considered advisable to follow the same course with the 17th I.C. One of these detachments under the Second-in-Command of the regiment, Captain Hockin, behaved very well at Kala Bagh on the Indus (see *ante*, 9th I.C., page 199).

The regiment was disarmed at Shamshabad.

### 18TH REGIMENT IRREGULAR CAVALRY

Raised 1846 at Sultanpore by Captain Rynes, as 17th Irregular Cavalry; became 18th Irregular Cavalry, 1847, and 8th Bengal Cavalry, 1861. Commandant, Major Rynes.

This regiment did not mutiny. It was disarmed at Peshawar, and subsequently re-constituted as the 8th B.C.

### ODUH IRREGULAR FORCE

Raised 1856. Commandant, Brigadier-General Gray. Consisted of three Batteries of Field Artillery and one Reserve Company, three regiments of Cavalry and ten of Infantry. The whole lot mutinied.

*Artillery*, No. 1 Field Battery. Lieutenant Tullok. Lucknow. In May, 1857, this Battery was at Secrora; mutinied there, and forced Lieutenant Bonham, who was in command, to leave with the European non-commissioned officers for Lucknow. The Battery formed part of the rebel army at Chinhut.

No. 2 Field Battery. Lieutenant Alexander. Lucknow. Four guns of this Battery were with Sir Henry Lawrence's Force at Chinhut, and it was due to the treachery of the native gunners that the battle was lost. They cut the traces, overturned some of the guns, mounted the horses and deserted. One of the guns, and almost all the ammunition wagons fell into the enemy's hands.

No. 3 Field Battery. Lieutenant Ashe. Lucknow. Two guns of this Battery, under Lieutenant Bryce, were also part of the British force at Chinhut. The gunners deserted and both the guns were lost. A portion of the Battery had been sent to Cawnpore to assist General Wheler, and entered the entrenchment on June 3rd, 1857. Two days later the gunners showed signs of disaffection, were disarmed and turned out of the entrenchment; they went off in a body to the Nana's Camp.

*Cavalry, 1st Regiment.* Captain Daly. Secrora. A squadron of this regiment under Lieutenant Barbor, with one of the 2nd Oudh Cavalry, and fifty men of the 32nd, were sent by Sir Henry Lawrence to Cawnpore on May 21st, 1857, as a reinforcement. Captain Hayes, Military Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, and Mr. Fayrer, brother of the Residency Surgeon, accompanied the party. General Wheler did not want the Cavalry, and Captain Hayes obtained permission to make an expedition with it up the Grand Trunk Road. Six days after they had left Cawnpore the sowars treacherously murdered all the three officers. The headquarters of the 1st O.I.C. mutinied at Secrora on June 9th, and were part of the rebel

## 208 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

army at Chinhut. The regiment subsequently became part of the Nana's army, and shared the fortunes of the other rebels belonging to it.

*2nd Regiment.* Captain Gall. Lucknow. The behaviour of the squadron, sent to Cawnpore with one of the 1st O.I.C., has been narrated above. After it had mutinied the 2nd O.I.C. took part in the Battle of Chinhut, and subsequently joined the army of the Nana.

*3rd Regiment.* Lieutenant Hardinge. Pertabgarh. This regiment, after it had mutinied, formed part of the rebel force at Chinhut. Presumably it subsequently joined the Nana's army. Some of its men were with Havelock's Force in its advance from Allahabad to Cawnpore. They misbehaved in the battle of Fattehpoore, on July 12th, and again on the 14th at Pandu Nadi. They attempted to drive off Havelock's baggage. He dismounted, and disarmed, them the same day.

*Infantry, 1st Regiment.* Captain Thompson. Persedpur Salone. Mutinied quietly at Salone on June 10th. The men talked in a respectful manner to their officers, and did not molest them in any way. Some were with the rebels at Chinhut. The regiment joined the Nana's army, and took part in the Ghat massacre.

*2nd Regiment.* Captain Boileau. Secrora. Mutinied there on June 9th, 1857, joined in the battle of Chinhut on the 30th, and subsequently joined the army of the Nana at Cawnpore.

*3rd Regiment.* Lieutenant Miles. Gonda. Mutinied there on June 10th and fought at Chinhut; it then joined the Nana at Cawnpore.

Three Companies were sent after one boat that got away from the Ghat Massacre; captured and brought back its occupants, who were killed like all the rest.

*4th Regiment.* Captain Babington. Lucknow. Mutinied at Lucknow, and joined in the siege of the Residency.

*5th Regiment.* Captain Hawes. Dariabad. On June 9th, 1857, the C.O. of this regiment, Captain Hawes, for the second time attempted to get his men to remove the treasure in the station, amounting to three lakhs of rupees, to Lucknow. He succeeded in having it loaded, but just outside the station the sepoy's seized it, and fired on Captain Hawes, who fortunately escaped. After this incident the men of the regiment proclaimed Wajid Ali Shah, the ex-King of Oudh, as their rightful sovereign, and marched to Nawabgunj, which was the rendezvous for all the mutineers in Oudh. The 5th O.I.I. took part in the battle of Chinhut, and in the siege of Lucknow. Its colours were taken during the first relief of the Residency by Havelock.

*6th Regiment.* Lieutenant-Colonel O'Brien. Fyzabad. Mutinied there on June 7th, 1857; followed the course taken by most of the O.I.I. Regiments; went to Nawabgunj; fought at Chinhut; joined in the siege of Lucknow, and, after the capture of the city, dispersed into Oudh.

*7th Regiment.* Lieutenant Sykes. Lucknow. This regiment was cantoned at Musa Bagh, three miles from the Residency. It began, in April, to show signs of mutiny. The sepoy's were excited and insolent, and refused to use the cartridges

## 210 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

served out to them. A crisis was reached and Sir Henry Lawrence decided to disarm them. This was done on the night of June 3rd. Fifty-seven men and two Subadars, considered ringleaders, were arrested and confined. A court of enquiry was held; some men and the native officers, with a few exceptions, were dismissed, and the rest were pardoned. Two hundred of the best were re-armed and quartered in the Dawlat Khana, in the city. The bulk of the regiment seems to have gradually deserted; some remained doing duty until the first day of the siege when they went off. A portion of them served with the rebel besieging force, others joined the Nana's army.

*8th Regiment.* Captain Smith. Sultanpore. Mutinied on June 9th, 1857, together with the 15th O.I.C. and a Corps of military police; joined the 5th O.I.I. at Duriabad and went on to Nawabgunj; fought against us at Chinhut, and took part in the siege of Lucknow.

*9th Regiment.* Captain Gowan. Sitapur. Mutinied June 3rd, killed those of their officers, and any other Europeans, they came across, then took the same course as that of the other O.I.I. Regiments.

*10th Regiment.* Lieutenant Horin. Sitapur. Mutinied June 3rd. Up to the very day of its revolt this regiment had been considered thoroughly loyal, but it was in reality as bad as the others, and the men took their part in murder and destruction. The 10th O.I.I., it was said by Kaye, did not go to Lucknow, but to Delhi.

Large numbers of all the Oudh Irregular Infantry, after revolting, dispersed to their homes.

## REGIMENT OF LOODIANA

Raised in 1846. Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel P. Gordon.

Was stationed at Benares when the mutiny broke out, with a detachment at Jaunpur. This was the only Sikh regiment to mutiny, and it was generally believed that at Benares the outbreak, which occurred at a parade held for the disarming of the 37th B.N.I., was due to sudden panic rather than to wilful mutiny. The Sikhs were dispersed by a few rounds of grape and went off to Oudh. The detachment at Jaunpur mutinied on the following June 5th when they heard that their comrades had been fired at, and many killed. The men of this regiment took part in the siege of Lucknow. Their colours were taken when the Secundra Bagh was stormed, and many of them were killed. Some remained staunch at Benares, and the regiment was subsequently reconstituted, becoming the 15th Sikhs.

## RAMGARH LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION

Raised June 29th, 1795. Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel W. P. Robbins.

Stationed at Dorunda, Chota Nagpur, with detachments at Chyebassa, Purnlia, Sambalpur, Kharrackdeea, Zeemeerapat, and Bancoora.

This regiment, and its detachments, mutinied on July 31st, 1857. At all the stations the Treasuries were plundered, private property destroyed and criminals released from the jails.

## 212 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

The mutineers went off to join the force collected by Kuar Singh.

On October 4th, 1857, Major English, with some of Her Majesty's 53rd and loyal Sikhs, came upon the Ramgarh rebels, with four guns, encamped at Chattra. After a severe struggle the mutineers were driven off, their guns and camp captured, and also ten elephants. The 53rd lost thirty-six killed and wounded in this action.

There is no further mention of this regiment. The remnant doubtless remained with Kuar Singh.

### HARRIANA LIGHT INFANTRY

Raised 1836. Commandant, Captain Stafford.  
Stationed at Hansi, Hissar, and Sirsa.

Mutinied on May 29th, together with a portion of the 4th Irregular Cavalry. The murders committed by these men, and the sowars, of the European men, women and children, were particularly atrocious. The H.L.I. marched off to Delhi as fast as they could cover the ground. It is mentioned as forming part of the rebel garrison, and as having formed part of the force of mutineers cut to pieces by Greathed at Khari Nadi.

### GWALIOR CONTINGENT

"Punjab." Brigadier Commanding, Captain Ramsey. Brigade-Major, Captain R. I. Meade.

The whole of this contingent mutinied. It consisted of four Companies of Artillery, two regiments of Cavalry, and seven regiments of Infantry. These kept together as a Force, with

some unimportant exceptions, throughout 1857, and the greater part of 1858. A summarized account of the career of the contingent has already been given (page 13). Mentions of the individual units in books on the mutiny are few. At Gwalior, when the murderous outbreak occurred on June 14th, 1857, were the 2nd and 4th Companies of the Artillery, some of the 1st Cavalry, and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Regiments of Infantry. The Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry at out-stations quickly followed suit.

On May 14th Scindia, at Mr. Colvin's request, had despatched the 1st and 2nd Cavalry and Pearson's Battery into the districts to keep order. When the mutiny took place at Aligarh, on May 20th, Captain Alexander, commanding the 1st Contingent Cavalry, detached Lieutenant Cockburn with 233 sowars to that station. The latter brought away the Aligarh European inhabitants to Hattrass. At this place 100 of the sowars rebelled and went off. Cockburn pursued them with his remaining men, and killed 48 of the rebels. Soon after, on July 1st and 2nd, 1857, at Hattras and Sirsa, the rest of the 1st Cavalry, the 2nd Cavalry, and Pearson's Battery (4th), mutinied. They did not murder their officers, but sent them away. The 2nd Cavalry is afterwards mentioned as forming part of the Nawab of Banda's Force in April, 1858, when it was defeated by General Whitlock.

In July, 1857, a wing of the 6th Company, 6th Gwalior Infantry, garrisoned Asirgarh, ninety-nine miles south-east of Mhow. One Company, which had been detached to Berhampore, mutinied,



returned to Asirgarh, and attempted to enter and seize the Fort. The whole five Companies were disarmed by Lieutenant Gordon, and Captain Blair who opportunely arrived with two Companies of the 19th B.N.I. The mutineers were turned adrift, and found their way back to Gwalior.

The 7th Infantry mutinied at Nimach, and remained part of the Nimach Brigade.

#### UNITED MALWA CONTINGENT

Commandant, Major Timmins.

A small force, consisting of a regiment of Infantry, a Battery of Artillery, and some Cavalry, stationed at Mehidpore, thirty miles from Augur.

In May, 1857, a detachment of 200 sepoys of this contingent was at Indur when the revolt broke out there. An attack was made by some of Holkar's troops on the Residency on July 1st. The men of the contingent refused to act against the enemy, eventually fraternized with them, and, being joined by the mutineers from Mhow, marched off to Gwalior; formed themselves into what was known as the Indore Brigade, and collected on the way a miscellaneous rabble of budmashes.

After the mutinies at Nimach and Nasirabad four troops of the Cavalry at Mehidpore were dispatched against the mutinous troops from those stations. They mutinied on the way, killed Lieutenants Brodie and Hunt, joined the rebels, and fought against General Polwhele at Sassiah on July 5th.

In September a portion of this contingent was

at Gwalior with the Bhopal and Mhow mutineers, and moved from there on to Agra. This portion was smashed at Khari Nadi by Greathed on October 10th.

The main body of the United Contingent sat tight at Mehidpore—under its British officers—until November, when it was attacked by a crowd of Velatees and Rohillas, together with the budmashes of the city, headed by the Amildar of Mehidpore. They fought for eight hours; the rebels captured the contingent's guns, upon which all the Mussulmans of the contingent turned on their officers, killed Captain Mills commanding the Infantry, and Dr. Gane. The others escaped to Indore. The mutineers then fraternized with the rebel assailants, and went off with the guns. They were intercepted by Captain Orr with a regiment of the Hyderabad Contingent Cavalry, cut up and dispersed.

#### BHOPAL CONTINGENT

Commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Travers.

This was also a small contingent consisting of a regiment of Infantry, some Cavalry and Artillery, stationed at Sihor in Central India. In May, 1857, Colonel Durand, A.G.G., brought in a strong detachment of the Bhopal Contingent, including two guns, to Indore, trusting in its fidelity for the defence of the Residency, but when the outbreak of Holkar's troops occurred on July 1st, 1857, the Bhopal men proved disloyal. Travers charged the rebel guns turned against the Residency, but only five of his men followed him. (I knew one

## 216 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

of the five, many years afterwards, as a native officer in the Central India Horse.) Of the 270 men of the Bhopal Infantry only 12 obeyed orders; the others refused to fight and threatened their officers' lives. Durand was obliged to retire on Sihor. Only a few of the Bhopal Cavalry remained with him, and these refused to go anywhere else. The bulk of the Bhopal Contingent joined the Indore Brigade of rebels and shared in its fortunes, and misfortunes, up to the day of its annihilation at Khari Nadi.

The loyal remnants of the Bhopal, Malwa and Gwalior Contingents were formed into the Bhopal Battalion, afterwards the 9th B.N.I.

### KOTAH CONTINGENT

Commandant, Captain Dennys. Consisted, like other contingents of Native States, of all arms; had been maintained at the expense of the State since 1838. Mutinied at Agra, July 4th, 1857, and at Kotah, October 15th.

In consequence of the mutinies at Nimach and Nasseerabad the greater part of the Kotah Contingent was despatched to Agra, and, on July 2nd, Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry marched into the cantonments. Two days afterwards it mutinied, joined the attacking rebel force at Sassiah, and, after that disastrous battle, went off with the Nimach troops to Delhi. It was with this Brigade at Najafgarh and cut to bits.

The portion of the contingent which remained at Kotah was quiet until October, then broke out

savagely; murdered Major Barton, his sons, and other Europeans. It seems that this portion of the Kotah Contingent joined Tantia Topi, and gradually came to an end in the Central India Campaign of 1858. In a report of Sir Hugh Rose's, dated June 1st of that year, at Calpi, he mentions the capture, among twenty-four colours, of those of the Kotah Contingent.

### JODHPUR LEGION

This force, stationed, not at Jodhpur as its title might imply, but at Erinpura, seventy-eight miles distant. It consisted of Cavalry, Infantry and Artillery. All but a few of the men belonged to the same classes in Hindustan, chiefly in Oudh, from which the regular regiments of the Bengal Army were recruited. The Infantry had in addition three Companies of Bheels. The three troops of Cavalry were particularly efficient; the two guns were drawn by camels, and manned from the Infantry. The status of the Legion was exactly the same as that of the other contingents maintained by Native States.

The mutiny was commenced by a Company detached to enforce order in the district, on August 19th, 1857, at Anadra, two miles from Mount Abu. Early on the morning of the 21st the men of this Company, under cover of a thick fog, climbed up the hill to Abu, and, creeping up to the barrack, fired through the windows at the only European troops in the station—thirty or forty invalids of Her Majesty's 83rd who were asleep in their beds. Not a man was hit. The few British sick leapt from their beds, seized their

## 218 REBEL BENGAL REGIMENTS

rifles and fired a volley at their would-be murderers, who all ran away. These legionaries next tried to surprise and murder Captain Hall, the C.O. of their regiment, who was living at Abu. This effort failed also, and the baffled Company, driven from the hill, went off to rejoin the headquarters at Erinpura.

Mutiny broke out at that station on the morning of the 22nd. Lieutenant Conolly and some sergeants, with their families, were the only Europeans in the place. Some of the mutineers were for murdering them all, and some for protecting them. Eventually the sergeants, their wives and children, were allowed to go, and the Jodhpore Legion, with its officer Lieutenant Conolly as a prisoner, and Subadar Mirhwan Singh promoted to General, marched towards Ajmere. The next day they let Conolly go, and he made his way safely back to Erinpura. The contingent continued its march through the Jodhpore territory until it arrived at Awah, the Thakur of which place was in rebellion against the Maharaja of Jodhpore, and, consequently, against the Maharaja's Suzerain the Government of India.

The mutineers and the Thakur made common cause at Pali, on September 8th, 1857. They badly defeated the Jodhpur troops sent against them under Anar Singh, who was killed, and captured camp, guns and military stores.

About the middle of September Brigadier-General Lawrence collected a small force and advanced on Awah, but failed to take the Fort. Soon after this unfortunate expedition the Thakur and the mutineers fell out and separated; the

latter moved on in the direction of Delhi, and, on November 16th, were brought to action at Narnoul by General Gerrard, commanding one of the pursuing columns detached after the fall of Delhi. They were there almost annihilated. The survivors dispersed and went to their homes.

## THE FOLLOWING CORPS DID NOT MUTINY

- Regiment of Ferozepore: Raised 1846.  
Shekawatee Battalion: Raised 1835.  
Nasseree Rifle Battalion: Raised 1850.  
Sinmoor Rifle Battalion: Raised 1815.  
Kemaon Battalion: Raised 1815.  
Calcutta Native Militia: Raised 1795.  
Hill Rangers: Raised 1792.  
1st Assam Light Infantry Battalion: Raised 1817.  
2nd Assam Light Infantry: Raised 1822.  
Mhairwarrah Battalion: Raised 1822.  
Sylhet Light Infantry: Raised 1824.  
Arracan Battalion.  
Sebundy Sappers and Miners.  
Residents Escort Khatmandu: Raised 1816.  
Local Company of Artillery—Dibrugarh: Raised 1840.  
Nimaaur Police Corps.  
Malwa Bheel Corps: Raised 1840.  
Meywar Bheel Corps: Raised 1840.  
Pegu Light Infantry.  
Four local Corps of Sikh Infantry: Raised 1846.  
Corps of Guides: Raised 1846.  
Punjab Irregular Force: Raised 1849.  
Hyderabad Contingent.  
Nagpur Irregular Force: Raised 1854.

# INDEX

## ARTILLERY

1st Brigade Horse Artillery,	19
2nd       "       "	23
3rd       "       "	23
No. 1 Light Field Battery,	24
No. 2       "       "	24
No. 5       "       "	24
No. 6       "       "	25
No. 13       "       "	26
No. 15       "       "	26
No. 18       "       "	27
7th Batt. Foot Artillery,	30
8th       "       "	31
9th       "       "	32

## BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY

1st Regiment,	71
2nd       "       "	75
3rd       "       "	76
4th       "       "	78
5th       "       "	81
6th       "       "	84
7th       "       "	86
8th       "       "	91
9th       "       "	92
10th       "       "	95
11th       "       "	97
12th       "       "	99
13th       "       "	101
14th       "       "	105
15th       "       "	107
16th       "       "	108
17th       "       "	109
18th       "       "	113
19th       "       "	114
20th       "       "	117
21st       "       "	119
22nd       "       "	120
23rd       "       "	121
24th       "       "	122
25th       "       "	123
26th       "       "	124
27th       "       "	127
28th       "       "	129
29th       "       "	131
30th       "       "	133

## BENGAL NATIVE INFANTRY—*cont.*

31st Regiment,	134
32nd       "       "	136
33rd       "       "	137
34th       "       "	138
35th       "       "	141
36th       "       "	142
37th       "       "	145
38th       "       "	146
39th       "       "	149
40th       "       "	150
41st       "       "	150
42nd       "       "	153
43rd       "       "	154
44th       "       "	155
45th       "       "	155
46th       "       "	157
47th       "       "	159
48th       "       "	160
49th       "       "	162
50th       "       "	162
51st       "       "	163
52nd       "       "	165
53rd       "       "	168
54th       "       "	170
55th       "       "	171
56th       "       "	174
57th       "       "	175
58th       "       "	176
59th       "       "	177
60th       "       "	177
61st       "       "	180
62nd       "       "	181
63rd       "       "	182
64th       "       "	183
65th       "       "	183
66th       "       "	184
67th       "       "	184
68th       "       "	184
69th       "       "	185
70th       "       "	186
71st       "       "	186
72nd       "       "	187
73rd       "       "	189
74th       "       "	190



BENGAL SAPPERS AND MINERS, 27

BHOPAL CONTINGENT, 215

GWALIOR CONTINGENT, 212

HARRIANA LIGHT INFANTRY, 212

IRREGULAR CAVALRY

1st Regiment, 192

2nd " 192

3rd " 193

4th " 193

5th " 194

6th " 195

7th " 195

8th " 196

9th " 198

10th " 199

11th " 200

12th " 201

13th " 202

14th " 203

15th " 204

16th " 205

IRREGULAR CAVALRY—*contd.*

17th Regiment, 205

18th " 206

JODHPUR LEGION, 217

KOTAH CONTINGENT, 216

LIGHT CAVALRY

1st Regiment, 34

2nd " 39

3rd " 45

4th " 55

5th " 58

6th " 58

7th " 62

8th " 65

9th " 66

10th " 69

OUDH IRREGULAR FORCE, 206

RAMGARH LIGHT INFANTRY

BATTALION, 211

REGIMENT OF LUDIANA, 211

UNITED MALWA CONTINGENT, 214

